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HISTORY
OF
VAN WERT COUNTY, OHIO
AND
REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS

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EDITED AND COMPILED BY
THADDEUS S. GILLILAND,
VAN WERT, OHIO

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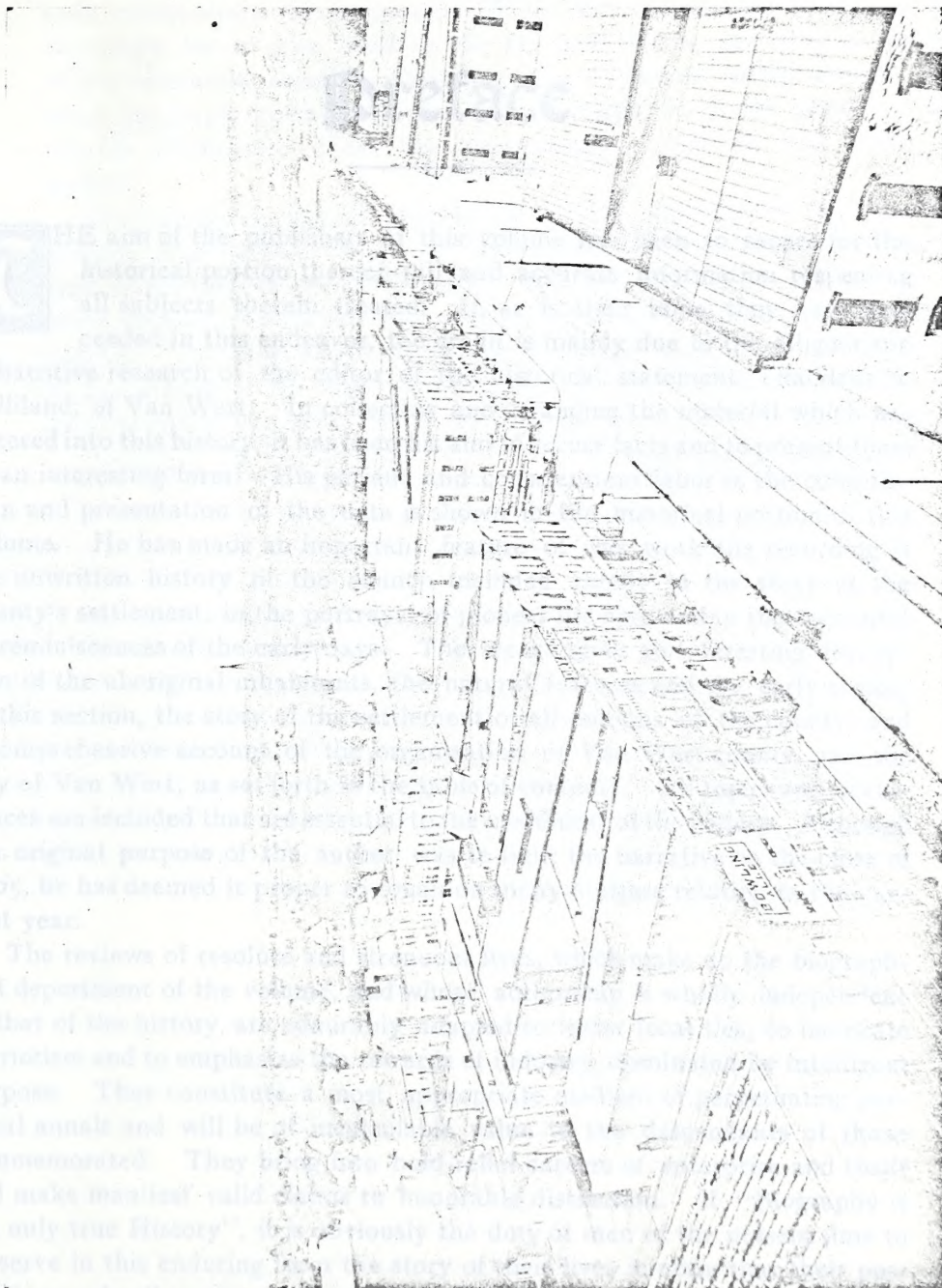
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"History is Philosophy Teaching by Examples."

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BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF VAN WERT
Looking Southwest from the Court House

Preface

THE aim of the publishers of this volume has been to secure for the historical portion thereof full and accurate information respecting all subjects therein treated. If, as is their hope, they have succeeded in this endeavor, the credit is mainly due to the diligent and exhaustive research of the editor of the historical statement, Thaddeus S. Gilliland, of Van Wert. In collecting and arranging the material which has entered into this history, it has been his aim to secure facts and to present them in an interesting form. His patient and conscientious labor in the compilation and presentation of the data is shown in the historical portion of this volume. He has made an important feature of this work the recording of the unwritten history of the county, included chiefly in the story of the county's settlement, in the portrayal of pioneer life here and in the recountal of reminiscences of the early days. The record gives an interesting description of the aboriginal inhabitants, the natural features and the early society of this section, the story of the settlement of all sections of the county, and a comprehensive account of the organization of Van Wert county, and the city of Van Wert, as set forth in the table of contents. All topics and occurrences are included that are essential to the usefulness of the history. Although the original purpose of the author was to limit the narrative to the close of 1905, he has deemed it proper to touch on many matters relating to the current year.

The reviews of resolute and strenuous lives, which make up the biographical department of the volume, and whose authorship is wholly independent of that of the history, are admirably adapted to foster local ties, to inculcate patriotism and to emphasize the rewards of industry, dominated by intelligent purpose. They constitute a most appropriate medium of perpetuating personal annals and will be of incalculable value to the descendants of those commemorated. They bring into bold relief careers of enterprise and thrift and make manifest valid claims to honorable distinction. If "Biography is the only true History", it is obviously the duty of men of the present time to preserve in this enduring form the story of their lives in order that their posterity may dwell on the successful struggles thus recorded, and profit by their example. These sketches, replete with stirring incidents and intense experiences, will naturally prove to most of the readers of this book its most attractive feature.

Preface

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In the aggregate of personal memoirs thus collated will be found a vivid epitome of the growth of Van Wert County, which will fitly supplement the historical statement; for the development of the county is identified with that of the men and women to whom it is attributable. The publishers have endeavored in the preparation of the work to pass over no feature of it slightly, but to give heed to the minutest details, and thus to invest it with a substantial accuracy which no other treatment would afford. The result has amply justified the care thus exercised, for in our behalf no more reliable production, under the circumstances, could be laid before its readers.

We have given special prominence to the portraits of representative citizens, which appear throughout this volume, and believe they will prove a most interesting feature of the work. We have sought to illustrate the different spheres of industrial and professional achievement as conspicuously as possible. To those who have kindly interested themselves in the successful preparation of this work, and who have voluntarily contributed most useful information and data, we herewith tender our grateful acknowledgment.

Chicago, Ill., May, 1906.

THE PUBLISHERS.

Note

All the biographical sketches published in this volume were submitted to their respective subjects or to the subscribers, from whom the facts were primarily obtained, for their approval or correction before going to press; and a reasonable time allowed in each case for the return of the type-written copies.

Most of them were returned to us within the time allotted, or before the work was printed, after being corrected or revised; and these may therefore be regarded as reasonably accurate.

A few, however, were not returned to us and as we have no means of knowing whether they contain errors or not, we cannot vouch for their accuracy. In justice to our readers, and to render this work more valuable for reference purposes, we have indicated these uncorrected sketches by a small asterisk (*), placed immediately after the name of the subject. They will all be found on the last pages of the book.

RICHMOND & ARNOLD.

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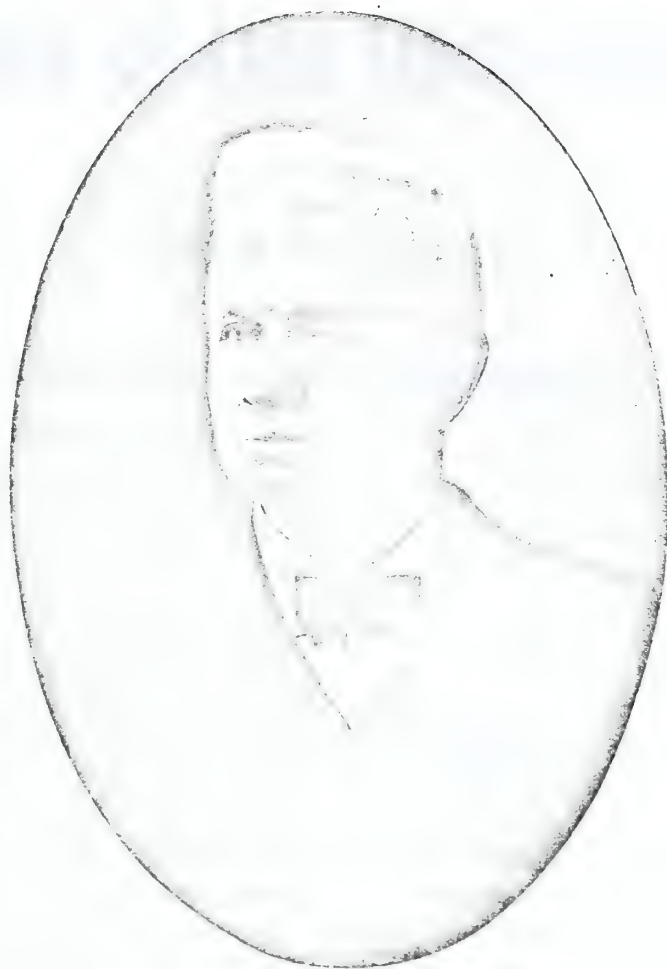
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J. S. Hilliland

History of Van Wert County

CHAPTER I

INDIAN WARS IN NORTHWESTERN OHIO

Pontiac's Conspiracy—Massacre of the Moravians—First Legislation by Congress on the Indian Question—Harmar's Expedition—St. Clair's Defeat—Wayne's Successful Campaign—Battle of the Fallen Timber—The Scout, Capt. William Wells—War of 1812—Siege and Relief of Fort Meigs—Dispossession of the Indians.

During 1762 a treaty of peace between France and England was signed by which France recognized England's right to what is now included in Northwestern Ohio. As early as 1763 England saw the importance of keeping control of the Maumee and its tributaries, the Auglaize, the St. Mary's and the St. Joseph; and forts were erected at the mouth of the Maumee and also at the head waters at the junction of the St. Mary's and the St. Joseph. The latter was known as Fort Miami and was destined to be the scene of sanguinary strife and bloodshed. These and other forts along the shore of Lake Erie were expected to keep the Indians in check as well as to administer the internal affairs of the country, which were largely placed in the hands of army officers.

PONTIAC'S CONSPIRACY.

But about this time a great chief by the name of Pontiac appeared, claiming that he was commissioned by the Great Spirit to gather together all the Indians and drive the British from the country. The French had used all their influence to instill into the minds of the Indians their hatred of the British and told them that, now that the French were compelled to withdraw, the British would oppress them still more. When Pontiac with his great eloquence called upon them to rise in their might and drive the invaders from the land, he told them the Great Spirit said: "Why do you suffer these dogs in red clothing to enter your country and take the lands I have given you? Drive them from it. Drive them. And

when you are in distress I will help you."

The Mingoes, Shawnees, Delawares, Miamis, Chippewas, Wyandots and Ottawas were carried away by his eloquence and believed that it was a message direct from the Great Spirit with both a command and a promise that was all powerful. And for a time the tribes laid aside their past differences and raised a large army ready for war and anxious to avenge their wrongs, real or fancied, and urged on by the promise of scalps and of plunder. Some Frenchman had sent them a letter, purporting to be from the King of France, promising that if they would drive out the British he would not allow anyone else to come in and molest them.

With their enthusiasm aroused, a large army was raised that was irresistible. The Indians gathered in the vicinity of the different posts, Detroit, Maumee, Presque Isle, Niagara, Pittsburg and Ligonier were surrounded by Indians apparently friendly, who were waiting for the signal from their leader to attack. The Indians thus appeared at Fort Miami which they took by strategy. They first lured the commander out of the post and killed him. Then they called upon the post to surrender on their promise that the prisoners would be protected. Following the fall of Fort Miami, nine English posts surrendered only to be massacred. Then followed in rapid succession one of the bloodiest scenes in the annals of the Indian warfare. Age or sex was no protection from the desire for bloodshed and slaughter, which was only stayed when there was none to kill. Detroit was only saved by the timely information given by an Indian woman who was friendly to the commandant of the post. She gave the plans of the Indians, the manner of the signal for the slaughter to commence, so that it was easy to counteract their treacherous plans at the critical moment. The commandant

called a council of the head officers, laid the information before them and was advised to pay no attention to it as it was only the imaginings of an old woman, but he took counsel of caution and laid his plans accordingly. He had the guards strengthened and the troops called out for drill in front of his quarters when the chiefs called to show their respects to the commandant. He also notified the traders to have arms ready to repel any attempt at plundering. The chiefs came to the conference, and found the whole garrison was under arms. Pontiac asked how it came that the men were armed, and was told that it was their regular drill. The chiefs with Pontiac at their head were conducted to headquarters and proceeded to declare their great friendship for the whites and the commandant in particular, and their desire to live in peace and to trade with his people. But when he came to deliver the belt of wampum, that was to be the signal of slaughter, he noticed that the English officers grasped the hilts of their swords and drew them half from the scabbards, and a company of soldiers halted in front of the door which was left open, Pontiac hesitated, turned pale and finally delivered the belt in the usual manner; his chiefs looked at him in surprise, but Pontiac knew that his plot had been discovered. The commandant in his speech charged Pontiac with being a traitor and as proof that he knew their treachery he drew back the blanket of one of the chiefs and disclosed his shortened gun hidden beneath. This convinced the Indians that their plans had failed. The commandant then told Pontiac that as he had given his word that they would not be harmed he would still adhere to his promise and they would be allowed to leave the fort unharmed, but it would be well for them to leave hastily lest some of his men might hear of their treachery and kill them. It seems that the proof of

their treachery should have been sufficient to absolve the commandant from his promise.

Pontiac and his warriors the next day lay siege to the fort and it was kept up from May, 1763, until March, 1764. During the siege a sailing vessel with provisions and ammunition for the fort was becalmed in the Detroit River along the flats between Detroit and Wyandotte. It was surrounded by a large number of canoes and the Indians clambered up the side of the vessel but the captain was prepared for them. He had had several kegs of powder opened and stood with a lighted torch and told them that the first thing they touched he would blow every one of them to the happy hunting grounds. They scrambled down the side of the vessel as fast as they had come up. Shortly afterward a breeze sprang up and the vessel reached the fort with the much-needed provisions and powder. I am indebted to Col. T. S. Sprague, of Detroit, for much of this information. This ended for a time the bloodshed in Northwestern Ohio.

MASSACRE OF THE MORAVIANS.

About this date or perhaps a little earlier, some Moravian missionaries established missions among the Indians along the Muskingum River and later others joined in the good work and were successful in converting many of the Indians and withdrawing them from the more warlike tribes. To these were added Christian Indians from Pennsylvania. But as times became more strained between the whites and the Indians, the Christian Indians became objects of suspicion to both sides. This culminated in their being forcibly removed to Upper Sandusky as prisoners by the Wyandots in September, 1781. Their cattle were driven along but were held as trophies of war by the Indians. After suffering for want of food and

clothing during the winter, as nearly everything had been stolen by the Indians, in March, 1782, a part of the Moravians were permitted to return to their former homes to gather their corn which had been left in the fields. But about this time an attack had been made on some of the border white settlers. A company of white men under the command of Captain Williamson started out to retaliate and wreaked their vengeance on these innocent Christian Indians and not one was allowed to escape. After they had bound their captives Williamson, their commander, asked if the men, women and children should be taken to Pittsburg or be killed; less than 20 voted to take them to Pittsburg, the rest voting to kill. Forty men, 20 women and 24 children—defenseless, innocent, fellow Christians—were murdered in cold blood by 80 or 90 Americans, who were too cowardly to follow up and punish the guilty parties.

Another expedition was immediately formed to annihilate the Delawares and Wyandots, no Indian to be spared, friend or foe. The expedition consisted of about 500 or 600 men under the command of Col. William Crawford. They marched to Upper Sandusky carrying a black flag; no quarters were to be given to man, woman or child. On reaching Upper Sandusky they found the Indians waiting for them nearby. In the battle that followed the whites were defeated with great slaughter and among the prisoners was Colonel Crawford, on whom the Indians wreaked their vengeance by burning him at the stake. At this late day we can have some charity for the untutored savage when the whites were scarcely less barbarous.

FIRST LEGISLATION BY CONGRESS ON THE INDIAN QUESTION.

The close of the War of the Revolution in 1783 brought the question of dealing with the

Indians in Ohio before the thoughtful. It was fraught with great difficulties. Washington urged Congress to pass stringent laws against settling upon or surveying west of a line extending from the mouth of the Great Miami to the Mad River, from there to Fort Miami on the Maumee, and thence north to include Detroit. He pointed out the propriety of excluding Indian agents from all share in the trade with the Indians and of prohibiting all purchasing of land from the Indians except by Congress or the State. On the 22nd day of September, Congress in pursuance of the President's recommendation forbade all purchase of or all settlement on Indian lands and commissioners were instructed to require the delivery of all prisoners; to inform the Indians of the boundaries between the British possessions and the United States; to dwell upon the fact that the Indians had not been faithful to their agreements; to negotiate all lands east of the line proposed by Washington; to learn all they could about the French at Kaskaskia; to hold one convention with all the tribes; to confirm no grants made by Indians to individuals; to look after American stragglers beyond the Ohio; to signify the displeasure of Congress at the invasion of the Indians' lands; and to prevent further intrusion.

The following year the boundary line was made to run due north from the lowest point of the falls of the Ohio to the northern limit of the United States.

HARMAR'S EXPEDITION.

Commissioners were sent out and treaties were made with the Indians, only to be broken. At last the government determined to send an expedition to the Maumee Valley to punish the Indians. A force of about 1,500 regulars and militia were placed under the command of Gen.

Josiah Harmar with instructions to chastise the Indians of the Maumee and of Lake Erie. On the 20th of September they set out on the march, passing where Xenia now stands. On the 13th of October they crossed the head waters of the Auglaize. Here they were joined with reinforcements from Cincinnati with ammunition.

On the night of the 17th of October, the Indians succeeded in stealing and driving through the lines from 50 to 100 horses. They had now reached the junction of the St. Mary's and St. Joseph rivers, where they found a number of villages of Maumees, Shawnees and Delawares. They spent the day in searching in the hazel brush for treasure. A large amount of corn was found buried in the earth. They destroyed about 20,000 bushels of corn and burned all the villages that had been abandoned by the Indians. During the night Captains McClure and McClary took a horse some distance down the river and hobbled him; after unloosing the clapper of a bell they had fastened to the animal as a decoy, they secreted themselves near-by with their rifles. An Indian came cautiously up and was untying the hobble when McClure shot him. He proved to be Captain Punk, a noted Delaware chief. His head was cut off and brought into camp.

Here General Harmar detached 180 militia-men and 30 regulars and sent them in pursuit of the Indians that had gone west from their camping ground. When about 12 miles west of Fort Wayne, they discovered a camp; as they had to cross a swamp, they were thrown into some disorder and before they could reform they were fired upon by the Indians from an ambush. The militia broke and fled and could not be rallied, 50 of them being killed in a few moments. The regulars in attempting to check the Indians had one sergeant and 21 privates killed on the battle-field. The militia

were reported to have flung away their arms without firing a shot. General Harmar then concluded to return to Cincinnati.

On the 21st the army started on the return and marched eight miles. That evening the scouts reported that the Indians had returned to their burnt homes at the junction of the St. Mary's and St. Joseph. General Harmar, being anxious to efface the stigma resting upon his troops in the affair of the 19th, sent Colonel Hardin with orders to surprise the Indians and bring on an engagement, the force assigned to this work consisting of 300 militia, and 60 regulars under command of Colonel Wyllys. Colonel Hardin arrived at the Miami town early on the morning of the 22nd. His force was divided into two parties. The left division was to have marched down the St. Mary's and across the St. Joseph and commence the attack on the Indians in front, who were encamped out near the ruins of their village. The right, under Hardin and Wyllys was to proceed to Harmar's ford on the Maumee, where the detachment was to remain until McMillan's party had reached the river and commenced the attack, which was to be the signal for Hardin to cross the Maumee and attack the Indians in the rear. Owing to the treachery or ignorance of the guides, McMillan's force lost its way in the thickets, through which they had to pass and although traveling all night did not reach the ford until daylight. As soon as the Indians, who had been encamped about the ruins of their homes, discovered Hardin's men, they began to rally for the fight, the alarm spreading and the Indians rushing in. Colonel Hardin, discovering that unless he crossed immediately he would be compelled to do it in the face of superior numbers, and expecting every moment to hear the report of McMillan's men in the enemy's rear, gave order to cross. By the time two-thirds of his force

had passed over, the battle began. The Indians were desperate, and their bravery surpassed anything before known in Indian warfare. A great portion of them throwing down their guns rushed on the bayonets of the soldiers, tomahawks in hand, thus rendering everything useless but the rifles of the militia, and carrying rapid destruction everywhere in their advance. While this desperate charge was being made, the remaining Indians were picking off the officers with their rifles. Majors Fountain and Wyllys, both valuable officers, fell directly after the battle began, the former pierced with 18 bullets. Fifty-one of Wyllys's regulars shared his fate and the other divisions suffered severely in both killed and wounded. Major McMillan came up with his force while the battle was raging, but was not able to do more than enable Hardin's troops to retire in good order. The militia behaved well in this fight, and received the thanks of General Harmar.

The loss in this battle was 180 killed and wounded, fully one-half of those engaged.

General Harmar issued the following order on the 22nd of October, the day of the second battle:

"Camp eight miles from the ruins of the Maumee towns, 1790.

"The General is exceedingly pleased with the behavior of the militia in the action of this morning. They have laid very many of the enemy dead on the spot. Although our loss is great, still it is inconsiderable in comparison to the slaughter among the savages. Every account agrees that upward of one hundred warriors fell in the battle. It is not more than man for man, and we can afford them two for one. The resolution and firm, determined conduct of the militia this morning has effectually retrieved their character in the opinion of the General. He knows they can and will fight."

It was well that he returned to Fort Washington. He had shown his entire incompetency, if not cowardice. He had sent out a small force to be slaughtered while he remained with an army in camp, within eight miles, and had not even the humanity to go back and bury his dead. Or was this cowardice?

This ended this disastrous campaign.

ST. CLAIR'S DEFEAT.

In 1791 Gen. Arthur St. Clair was appointed major general and placed in chief command of the frontier forces, after many delays, on the 17th of September with an army of 2,300 men. On the 12th of October he established a fort six miles south of Greenville. From there he marched through the wilderness, harassed by sickness, short rations and desertions, until November 3rd, when he reached a branch of the Wabash, where he remained until the 4th, when he was attacked by the Indians. The militia were encamped a quarter of a mile in advance of the rest of the command. At about half an hour before sunrise, just as the men were dismissed from parade, the Indians made an attack and the militia soon gave way, rushing into camp and through Major Butler's battalion and part of Clark's, which they threw into disorder, which those officers were not able to remedy. The Indians were checked by the heavy firing of the first line. But a heavy attack was commenced all along the line, the heaviest part of it being directed on the center, where the artillery was placed. The men were driven from their pieces frequently with great slaughter. A bayonet charge was ordered. The Indians immediately gave way, but attacked in another quarter. Charge after charge was made, but in every one of them many men were lost. Major Butler was dangerously wounded

and every officer in the second regiment fell, except three. The artillery was silenced and all the officers killed, except Captain Ford, who was badly wounded. More than half the army had fallen.

A retreat was ordered which was a disgraceful one, the men throwing away their guns, even after the Indians had ceased to pursue, and the rout continued to Fort Jefferson, 29 miles, which was reached a little after sunset. The march was again resumed at 10 o'clock and continued all night. So ended another disastrous campaign.

WAYNE'S SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN.

Gen. Anthony Wayne was then placed in command and on the 7th of October started on the march. An account as given by John M. Scott will be interesting, as showing the difference between General Wayne and the two former commanders:

"October 7th. Our first day's march, was great considering that the army had not got properly into their gears. I think it was about ten miles. Our second, the 8th, was greater; it reached Fort Hamilton. Many of the men were exceedingly fatigued, and it was pretty generally believed hard marching, though the General thought otherwise, and it must be so.

"9th. Our third day's march was to the five-mile spring, advance of Hamilton; observe we fortified our camp every night, and were very vigilant, or ought to be so.

"10th. Our fourth day's march we encamped about the seventeen-mile tree, and nothing extraordinary happened, excepting that our line of march extended for five miles, owing to the rapidity of the marching and the badness of the roads for our transportation, succumbing the straggling soldiers, worn down with fatigue and sickness, brought up by

the rear guard, whom they retarded considerably.

"11th. We proceeded on to the twenty-nine-mile tree, fortified as usual, and occupied a fine commanding ground. And nothing of consequence happened here.

"12. The roads were very bad and some of our wagons broke down, but as the General's orders declared there should be no interstices the line of march was not impeded, and we made, say ten miles this day.

"13th. We advanced by tolerably quick movements until we came within a mile or so of Fort Jefferson, and this day furnished a good deal of sport, for, as the devil would have it, Colonel Hamtramck was maneuvering his troops, and had a sham fight, which was construed by the whole army as an attack upon our advance guard or flankers. It really frightened a good many, but we all said, 'Let them come,' or, 'We are ready for them.' We had marched hard this day and I think were not so well prepared. However, it was at length discovered to be a sham fight, and everybody knew it then. Oh, it was Hamtramck's usual practice, they say. But it was all in my eye; they never thought of Hamtramck.

"14th. We marched past Fort Jefferson without even desiring to look at it: indeed some of us turned our heads the other way with disdain and it has been threatened (as report says) to be demolished entirely. This day's march brought us to where I am now sitting writing to my friends. We fortified our encampment very strong and feel secure.

"15th. The wagons were sent back to Fort St. Clair for stores, provisions, &c., with an escort of two subalterns and between eighty and ninety men, and nothing happened extra this day.

"16th. The devil to pay! Colonel Blue with near twenty of the cavalry went out to

graze the horses of the troops and after some time Blue discovered something crawling in the grass, which he at first thought was turkeys, but immediately found them to be two Indians, and ordered a charge; himself, two sergeants and a private charged, the rest ran away; the consequence, the two Indians killed the two sergeants, Blue and the private escaped. The leader, the rascal who behaved so cowardly, was immediately tried and condemned, but pardoned the next day.

"17th. Lieutenant Lowery and Ensign (formerly Dr.) Boyd, with the escort of ninety men guarding the wagons, were attacked by a party of thirty or forty Indians, who rushed on with savage fury and yells, which panic struck the whole party (excepting the two officers and fifteen or twenty men, who fell a sacrifice to savage barbarity) and they all fled and have been coming into Fort St. Clair, by twos and threes, ever since. The Indians plundered the wagons and carried off with them sixty-four of the best wagon horses in the army, killing six horses at the wagons in the defeat. Colonel Adair pursued the Indians and found several horses dead, which he supposed had been tired and they killed them, a proof that their flight was very rapid.

"In this attack we lost two promising, worthy and brave officers, and about twenty men, mostly of Captain Shaylor's company, for his and Captain Prior's formed the escort and are both now rather in disgrace."

Late in October, General Wayne established his winter headquarters about six miles north of Fort Jefferson, and there erected Fort Greenville, the present site of the county seat of Darke County.

On Christmas Day a detachment reoccupied the ground where General St. Clair had been defeated three years before, and called it Fort Recovery.

THEORY OF THE EARTH

BY J. H. VAN DIJK

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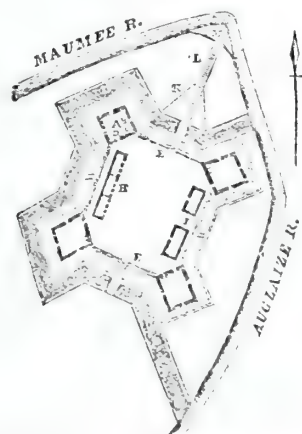
A reward was offered for every human skull, and 600 were gathered and buried beneath one of the blockhouses.

During the early months of 1794, General Wayne kept himself well posted by the services of numerous spies, and was aware that he was surrounded by a powerful enemy in the surrounding country. The government had already sent five different commissions to offer generous terms to the Indians, but to no avail. The Indians, urged on by the promise of assistance by the British and French, and elated by their former victories, would not listen to the pleadings and promises of the commissioners. In June, 1794, a detachment, which had acted as escort of provisions from Fort Recovery, fell into an ambush of Indians about a mile from the fort and were driven back with great loss, the victors following the fugitives to the gates of the fort and attempting to enter the fort with them. The siege lasted two days, and General Wayne states that there were a number of white men, speaking the English language, in the rear, urging the Indians on to the assault; they had their faces blackened. And there were a number of ounce balls and buckshot lodged in the fort, these being suited to the British arms. It was evident that during the siege they were looking for the artillery abandoned by St. Clair and hidden by the Indians in the fallen timber, but this had been recovered by the soldiers, and was being used in defending the fort.

On July 26th reinforcements of 1,600 mounted troops, from Kentucky, joined Wayne, and he started on the 28th to follow the line of retreat of the Indians. He halted at Girty's long enough to build Fort Adams on the bank of the St. Mary's; from here he was able to arrive unobserved almost in sight of Auglaize, the headquarters of the Indians, of which he took possession without opposition.

The Indians abandoned their villages in great haste, having been informed by Newman, the deserter, of the strength of Wayne's army.

The treachery of the deserter Newman enabled the Indians to escape punishment, but at the expense of all their property, with extensive, cultivated fields and gardens. Here General Wayne took possession and erected a strong fort, with four blockhouses, at the junction of the Auglaize and Maumee, and called it "Fort Defiance." This fort might well be called "Defiance" from its construction. Outside of the fort and blockhouses there was a wall of earth, eight feet thick, and sloping upwards and outwards, supported by a log wall, on the side of the ditch, which was 15 feet wide and eight feet deep, surrounding the whole fort, except on the side towards the Auglaize. What a difference between this precaution and that observed by Harmar and St. Clair!



PLAN OF FORT DEFIANCE.

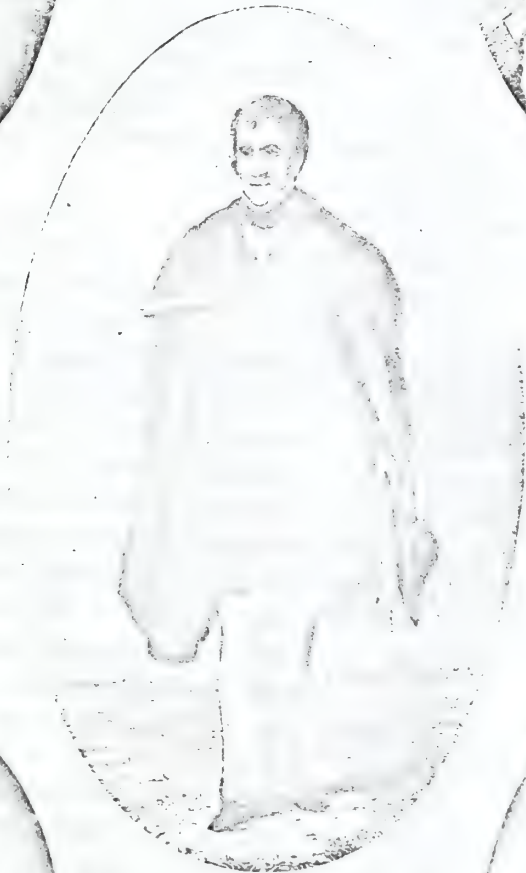
Explanations.—At each angle of the fort was a block-house. The one next the Maumee is marked A, having port-holes B, on the three exterior sides, and door D, and chimney C, on the side facing to the interior. There was a line of pickets on each side of the fort, connecting the block-houses by their nearest angles. Outside of the pickets and around the block-houses was a glacis, a wall of earth eight feet thick, sloping upwards and outwards from the feet of the pickets, supported by a log wall on the side of the ditch and by fascines, a wall of fagets, on the side next



GEN. GEORGE ROGERS CLARK



GEN. ANTHONY WAYNE



GEN. WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON



GEN. ARTHUR ST. CLAIR



GEN. JOSIAH HARMAR

the Auglaize. The ditch, fifteen feet wide and eight feet deep, surrounded the whole work except on the side toward the Auglaize; and diagonal pickets, eleven feet long and one foot apart were secured to the log wall and projected over the ditch. E and E were gateways. F was a bank of earth, four feet wide, left for a passage across the ditch. G was a falling gate or drawbridge, which was raised and lowered by pulleys, across the ditch, covering it or leaving it uncovered at pleasure. The officers' quarters were at H, and the storehouses at I. At K, two lines of pickets converged toward L, which was a ditch eight feet deep, by which water was procured from the river without exposing the carrier to the enemy. M was a small sand-bar at the point.—*From Knapp's "History of the Maumee Valley."*

BATTLE OF THE FALLEN TIMBER.

On the 13th of August, General Wayne sent a messenger of peace in the person of Christopher Miller, who had lived among the Shawnees, offering terms of peace. After waiting three days for word from Miller, Wayne ordered an advance and met Miller, who said that if the army would wait at Fort Defiance ten days the Indians would decide whether it would be peace or war, but Wayne refused to return. The Indians had chosen as the battleground the place that gave the name to the battle-field, "Fallen Timber," as a cyclone had recently passed and the fallen timber was a protection against the use of cavalry.

On the 20th the army moved forward to attack the Indians, who were encamped at Fallen Timber on the bank of the Maumee, at a place called Presque Isle, about two miles south of the present Maumee City, and four miles south of the British fort, Miami. This fort had been occupied by a garrison sent from Detroit in the spring of the same year, although the country had been ceded to the United States 11 years before. General Wayne had about 3,000 troops and the Indians numbered about the same. As he approached the Indian encampment, he sent forward a battalion of

mounted riflemen, with orders if attacked to retreat in apparent disorder so as to draw the Indians away from their chosen position. This was done and the Indians fell into the trap. When fired on, the troops fell back in apparent disorder and were pursued by the Indians, and when they reached the ground chosen by Wayne, the battle opened. After hard fighting, the victory was complete, about 100 Indians being killed.

After being fully satisfied that the Indians were dispersed, General Wayne ordered a stockade built below the mouth of the junction of Swan Creek and the Maumee, and placed in charge of Capt. J. Rhea, and a sufficient force to hold the same.

Thereupon the army returned to Fort Defiance, destroying the villages and crops on the way. On the 14th of September, after leaving a sufficient force to garrison Fort Defiance, the army took up its march to the Miami villages, where a fort was constructed and placed in command of Lieutenant Colonel Hamtramck, who christened it "Fort Wayne." On the 28th of October, General Wayne, having fully accomplished his mission, returned to Fort Greenville.

Gen. Anthony Wayne, was called "Mad Anthony," but was there ever more method in madness? There was never a precaution left untaken, and caution was as much a characteristic as that of dash when all was ready.

THE SCOUT, CAPT. WILLIAM WELLS.

It is said that one of the most valuable aids to General Wayne was Capt. William Wells, captain of the spies connected with Wayne's army. He was captured by the Indians when 12 years old and adopted by the Miami tribe. He married the sister of the great war chief, Little Turtle. After the war he was joined by

his wife and family and settled, near the junction of the St. Marys and the St. Joseph, on a small stream that bears the name of Spy Run.

WAR OF 1812.

By the surrender of General Hull, at Detroit, August 16, 1812, the whole Maumee Valley, except Fort Wayne and Fort Harrison, was again in the possession of the British and the Indians. Early in September Fort Harrison was attacked, and was defended by Zachary Taylor, who was afterwards elected President, in 1848.

On the 17th of September, 1812, Gen. William Henry Harrison was appointed to the command of all the forces in the Northwest.

He repaired to St. Marys where about 3,000 men were collected for the purpose of an expedition against Detroit. While at St. Marys he was informed that a large force of British and Indians with artillery was passing up the left bank of the Maumee toward Fort Wayne. General Harrison immediately determined by a rapid march, to Fort Defiance at the junction of the Auglaize and the Maumee, to try to intercept the return of this detachment, knowing it would be met in front by the return of General Winchester. He had with him the Ohio cavalry under Colonel Finley, the Kentucky cavalry under Col. R. M. Johnson, and the infantry regiments of Poague, Barbee and Jennings. Jennings was then at Fort Jennings, where he had been sent to build a fort between St. Marys and Defiance. On the 30th of September, General Harrison set out on the march at the head of the cavalry, having ordered the infantry to remain in camp, thinking it would be a hindrance. On the third day the General was met by an officer from General Winchester, who informed him of the arrival

of Winchester at Fort Defiance, and that the British had retired down the Maumee.

SIEGE AND RELIEF OF FORT MEIGS.

In the spring of 1813, General Harrison stationed his forces at Fort Meigs, at the foot of the rapids, and there awaited the result of the naval operations on Lake Erie. As soon as the ice broke up in the lake, the British General Proctor with all his disposable force of regulars and Canadian militia from Malden, and a large body of Indians, under Tecumseh, in all about 2,000 men, laid siege to Fort Meigs. To encourage them, the British promised the Indians an easy victory, and assured them that General Harrison should be delivered up to Tecumseh.

On the 26th of April, the British established their principal batteries opposite Fort Meigs. On the 27th the Indians crossed the river and established themselves in the rear of the Americans. The garrison, not having their wells completed, had no water, except what was obtained from the river under constant fire from the enemy. On the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of May, the enemy kept up an incessant shower of balls and shells on the fort and erected a gun and mortar battery, in the night, on the left bank of the river within 250 yards of the American lines. The Indians climbed the trees in the vicinity of the fort and poured a galling fire upon the garrison. In this situation, General Harrison received a summons from Proctor to surrender the garrison, greatly magnifying his means of annoyance. This was answered by a prompt refusal, assuring the British general that if he obtained possession of the fort, it would not be by capitulation, and that the fort would not be surrendered upon any terms; that if it should fall into his hands,

it would be in a manner calculated to do him more honor and give him higher claims upon the gratitude of his government than any capitulation could possibly do.

General Harrison had reported to the Governors of Kentucky and Ohio the situation and the necessity for reinforcements for the relief of Fort Meigs. His requisition had been anticipated and General Clay was at this moment descending the Maumee with 1,200 Kentuckians, conveyed on flatboats. At 12 o'clock in the night of the 4th, Capt. William Oliver arrived from General Clay with the welcome intelligence of the latter's approach, stating that he was just above the rapids and could reach the fort in two hours, and requesting General Harrison's orders. Harrison at once determined upon a general sally, and directed Clay to land 800 men on the left bank, take possession of the British batteries, spike their cannon, and then to immediately return to their boats and cross over to the American fort. The remainder of Clay's forces were ordered to land on the right bank and fight their way to the fort while sorties were to be made from the garrison, in aid of these operations. Captain Hamilton was ordered to proceed up the river in a pirogue with a force to land on the right bank, who should be a guide to pilot Clay's men to the fort, and then to cross over and station his pirogue at the place designated for the other division to land. General Clay, having received these instructions, descended the river in order of battle.

Colonel Dudley was ordered to take the men in the 12 front boats and execute General Harrison's orders on the left bank. He effected his landing at the place designated without difficulty. General Clay kept close along the right bank, until he came opposite the place of Dudley's landing, but not finding the subaltern

there he attempted to cross over and join Colonel Dudley; but this was prevented by the violence of the current; he again attempted to land on the right bank, and accomplished this with only 50 men under a heavy fire from the enemy and made his way to the fort.

Colonel Dudley, operating on the left bank with his detachment of 800 Kentucky militia, completely succeeded in driving the British from their batteries and spiking their cannon. But, blinded by their success, his troops refused to return to the boats and cross over to the fort, when ordered to do so, and, instead, followed the Indians about two miles and were led into a trap surrounded by double their number, where they were compelled to surrender. Fortunately Tecumseh commanded and forbade the massacre, burying his tomahawk in the head of one of his chiefs who refused to desist. Thus the lives of 500 captives were saved. Of the 800 men, only 150 escaped, the others being either killed or captured.

The battle of Lake Erie, on the 10th of September, 1813, virtually closed the war. Proctor attempted to retreat, with Harrison following him closely on the 2nd of October, and on the 5th overtaking him. In a short space of time the British regulars surrendered, which was largely brought about by Col. Richard M. Johnson, and his brother James, with whom the former had divided his force. They charged, the regulars broke through the British lines, and wheeling, poured a murderous fire into their rear. Here Tecumseh was killed by Colonel Johnson.

The troops engaged were about equal on both side, and numbered about 5,000 in all. The whole number killed was less than 40. The time occupied was less than 30 minutes.

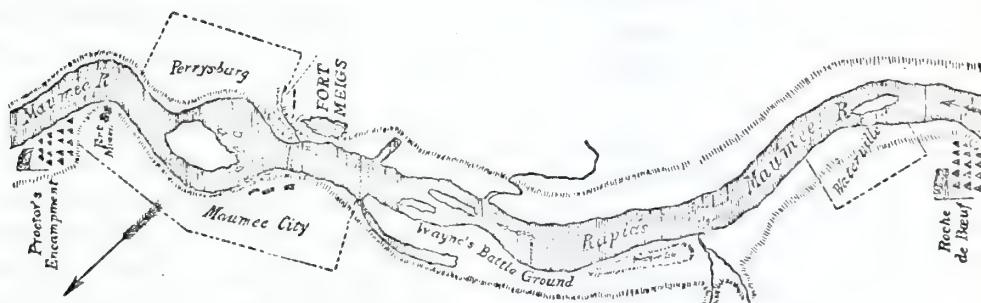
This virtually closed the Indian wars in Northwestern Ohio.

DISPOSSESSION OF THE INDIANS.

A treaty was concluded with the Delaware Indians, October 3, 1818, by which they ceded all their lands in Indiana to the United States, on condition that they be furnished a home on the west bank of the Mississippi and guaranteed peaceable possession of the same. By a treaty made at St. Marys in 1818, the Miami nation ceded their lands to the United States.

The Wyandots, in a treaty at Upper Sandusky, March 17, 1842, ceded their lands to the United States and left for Kansas in July, 1843. This was the last tribe in the State of Ohio. From a once powerful nation, they only numbered 700 souls at the time of their removal.

Thus the last vestige of the red man was removed from our border.



PLAN ILLUSTRATING THE BATTLES OF THE MAUMEE.

Explanations.—The map above shows about eight miles of the country along each side of the Maumee, including the towns of Perrysburg, Maumee City and Waterville.

Fort Meigs, memorable from having sustained two sieges in the year 1813, is shown on the east side of the Maumee, with the British batteries on both sides of the river, and above the British fort, the position of Proctor's encampment.

From Knapp's "History of the Maumee Valley."

CHAPTER II

THE TOLEDO WAR

The Famous Dispute Over the Northern Boundary of Ohio—Armed Troops Dispatched to the Scene of Trouble by Both Ohio and Michigan—Aggression on the Part of Michigan—What Changed the Sentiment of the People of Toledo.

Scarcely had the Indian war-whoop ceased to resound in our foresets, than another controversy arose that for a time promised to be as bloody. A dispute arose, as to the boundary line between the State of Ohio and the Territory of Michigan and was known as the "Toledo War."

The general supposition was, that the southern point on Lake Michigan was very near the 42nd degree of North Latitude, while in fact it is much further south. Thus it stood, when a man that had trapped and hunted along Lake Michigan appeared at Chillicothe, then capital of the state, and said that the lake extended very much farther south than the maps represented it to be, and that a line run due east from the southern shore of the Lake Michigan would strike above the mouth of the Maumee, instead of below. The convention, in session in 1802, was induced by the representation of the man to change the line, prescribed in the act of Congress, so far as to provide that if it should be found to strike Lake Erie below the Maumee River, then the boundary of the State should be a line drawn from the point where the prescribed line intersected the western boundary of the State direct to the most

northern cape of the Maumee Bay. That provision saved to the State of Ohio the valuable ports and harbors on the Maumee river and bay. Yet for many years after, it was a source of bitter strife between the officers of Michigan and those of Ohio. In June, 1802, Congress passed a resolution directing the Commissioner of the General Land Office to cause a line to be surveyed, but the resolution was not carried out until 1817, when William Harris, under the instruction of the Surveyor General of the United States, laid off the northern boundary on the line defined in the Ohio constitution of 1802. Through the influence of General Cass, then Territorial Governor of Michigan, another survey was made, under the authority of the United States government, by John A. Fulton, known as the Fulton line, which touched closer to conformity with the claims of Michigan. On the 23rd of February, 1835, the Legislature of Ohio passed an act extending the northern boundaries of Wood, Henry and Williams to the Harris line. Previous to this, the authorities of Michigan exercised jurisdiction over the entire territory lying between the Harris line on the north and the Fulton line on the south, as a part of Michigan. Previous to

1835 the authorities of Wood County attempted to extend the laws of Ohio over that part of the territory, claimed to be in that county, by levying taxes, but the people did not recognize the act and refused to pay the taxes. An act of the Legislature, on the 23rd of February, 1835, directed the Governor to appoint three commissioners to run and remark the Harris line.

The Governor appointed Uri Seely, Jonathan Taylor and John Patterson, commissioners to run and remark the line. Stevens T. Mason, Secretary and acting Governor of Michigan Territory, anticipating the action of the Legislature of Ohio, sent a special message to the Legislative Council, apprising it of the special message of Governor Lucas, and advised the passage of an act to counteract the proceedings of Ohio.

Governor Mason wrote to Gen. Joseph W. Brown, who was in command of the Third Division of the Michigan Militia, as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, DETROIT, Mich. 9th, 1835.

SIR: You will herewith receive the copy of a letter just received from Columbus. You now perceive that a collision between Ohio and Michigan is inevitable, and will therefore be prepared to meet the crisis. The Governor of Ohio has issued a proclamation, but I have neither received it nor have I been able to learn its tendency.

You will use every exertion to obtain the earliest information of the military movements of our adversary, as I shall assume the responsibility of sending you such arms, etc., as may be necessary for your successful operation, without waiting for an order from the Secretary of War, so soon as Ohio is properly in the field. Till then I am compelled to await the direction of the War Department.

Very respectfully your obedient servant.

STEVENS T. MASON.

On the 31st of March, Governor Lucas, accompanied by his staff and the boundary commission, arrived in Perrysburg, on their way to run and remark the Harris line, in compli-

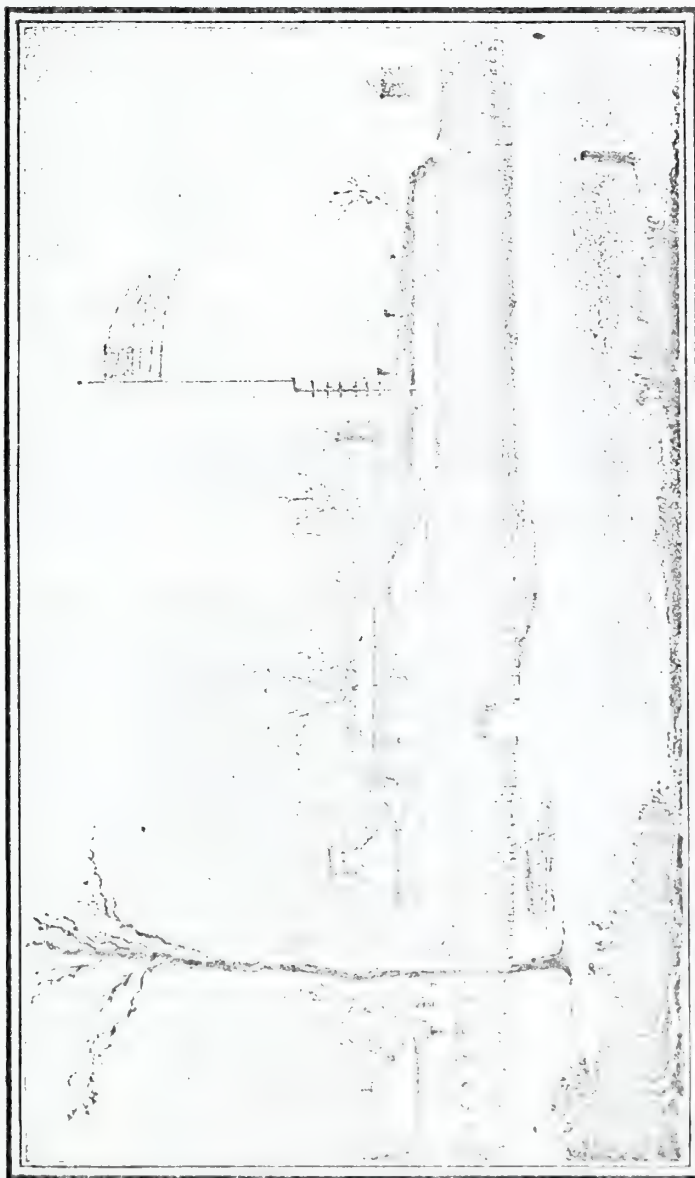
ance with the act of the 23rd of February previous.

Gen. John Bell, in command of the 17th Division of Ohio Militia, embracing the disputed territory, arrived about the same time with his staff and mustered into service a volunteer force of about 600 men, fully armed and equipped. The force went into camp at old Fort Miami, and awaited the orders of the Governor. The force consisted of five companies of the First Regiment, Second Brigade of the 17th Division of Ohio Militia, under the command of Col. Mathias Van Fleet. The captains of these companies were J. A. Scott, Stephen S. Gilbert, John Pettinger, Felton and Granville Jones, of the "Lucas Guards," an independent company of Toledo. These companies numbered about 300 men. There were also a part of a regiment from Sandusky County, and part of a regiment from Seneca County, these numbering about 300 men.

Governor Mason, with Gen. Joseph W. Brown, arrived at Toledo, with a force under his immediate command, variously estimated at from 800 to 1,200 men, ready to resist any advance of the Ohio authorities upon the disputed territory, to run the boundary line, or to do other acts inconsistent with Michigan's right of jurisdiction over it. Before there were any acts of violence, two commissioners from the President of the United States, in the persons of Richard Rush, of Philadelphia, and Colonel Howard, of Baltimore, were sent to use their personal influence to prevent any further demonstrations of a war-like character. Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, of Ohio, accompanied the commissioners.

The commissioners and Mr. Whittlesey had several conferences with the Governor, and on the 7th of April submitted the following proposition.

1st. That the Harris line should be run



FORT WASHINGTON (CINCINNATI)

(From a sketch by Maj. Jonathan Heart, U. S. A., drawn in 1791)

and remarked, pursuant to the act of the last session of the Legislature of Ohio, without interruption.

"2nd. The civil election under the laws of Ohio having taken place throughout the disputed territory, that the people residing upon it should be left to their own government, obeying the one jurisdiction or the other, as they may prefer, without molestation from the authorities of Ohio, or Michigan, until the close of the next session of Congress."

To this Governor Lucas assented and Governor Mason refused.

Governor Lucas disbanded his troops and Governor Mason disbanded part of his also, but still made preparations for any emergency that might occur. Governor Lucas now ordered the commissioners to proceed to survey and remark the Harris line, with the result as shown in their appended report.

PERRYSBURG, May 1, 1835.

TO ROBERT LUCAS, ESQ., Governor of the State of Ohio.

SIR: In the discharge of the duties, which devolve upon us as the commissioners appointed by your excellency for remarking the northern boundary of this State, which is known and distinguished as Harris' Line, we met at Perrysburg on Wednesday, the 1st of April last, and after completing the necessary arrangements proceeded to the northwest corner of the State and there succeeded in finding the corner as described in the field notes of the Surveyor Harris, a copy of which we had procured from the Surveyor General's office. Thence your commissioners proceeded eastwardly along said line, which they found with little difficulty and remarked the same, as directed by law, in a plain and visible manner to the distance of thirty-eight miles and a half, being more than half the length of the whole line.

During our progress, we had been constantly threatened by the authorities of Michigan, and spies from the Territory, for the purpose of watching our movements and ascertaining our actual strength, were almost daily among us.

On Saturday evening, the 25 ult., after having performed a laborious day's service, your commissioners, together with their party, retired to the distance of about one mile south of the line in Henry county,

within the State of Ohio, where we thought to have rested quietly and peaceably enjoy the blessings of the Sabbath—and especially not being engaged on the line—we thought ourselves secure for the day. But contrary to our expectations at about twelve o'clock in the day, an armed force of about fifty or sixty men hove in sight, within musket shot of us, all mounted upon horses, well armed with muskets and under the command of General Brown of Michigan. Your commissioners, observing the great superiority of force, having but five armed men among us, who had been employed to keep a lookout and as hunters for the party, thought it prudent to retire and so advised our men. Your commissioners, with several of their party, made good their retreat to this place. But, sir, we are under the painful necessity of relating that nine of our men, who did not leave the ground in time, after being fired upon by the enemy, from thirty to fifty shots, were taken prisoners and carried away to the interior of the country. Those who were taken were as follows, to-wit: Colonels Hawkins, Scott and Gould, Major Rice, Captain Biggerstaff and Messrs. Elsworth, Fletcher, Moale and Rickets.

We are happy to learn that our party did not fire a gun in return and no one was wounded, although a ball from the enemy passed through the clothing on one of our men.

We have this day learned by some of the men, who were arrested and have just returned, that they were taken to Tecumseh under the escort of the armed force; were there brought before a magistrate for examination; that they denied the jurisdiction; but that six entered bail for their appearance; two were released as not guilty, and one to-wit, Mr. Fletcher, refused to give bail and is retained in custody. We are also further informed by unquestionable authority, that, on the Sabbath day, an armed force of several hundred men were stretched along the line to the east of us, with a view to intercept us on our way.

Under the existing circumstances and in the present threatening attitude of affairs, your commissioners have thought it prudent for the interest of the State, as also for the safety of her citizens and to prevent the threatened effusion of blood, to withdraw from the line and at present suspend the further prosecution of the work until some efficient preparatory measure can be taken which will insure the completion of the undertaking. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JONATHAN TAYLOR,

J. PATTERSON,

URI SEELY,

Commissioners.

J. E. Fletcher refused to give or receive

bail, when offered, and was placed in jail in Tecumseh from where he reported to Governor Lucas.

B. F. Stickney, of Toledo, was arrested for his adherence to the Ohio faction and taken to Monroe and placed in jail, from where he reported to Governor Lucas.

N. Goosell, also of Toledo, was arrested and taken to Monroe, where he was held prisoner for some days, and then allowed to return to Toledo, from where he reported to Governor Lucas.

These proceedings created great excitement throughout Ohio. The Governor called an extra session of the Legislature, to meet June 8th. That body passed an act to prevent the forcible abduction of the citizens of Ohio. The act had reference to counteracting the previous acts of the Legislative Council of Michigan, and made the offense punishable in the Penitentiary for not less than three nor more than seven years. They also passed an act to create the county of Lucas out of the north part of Wood County, embracing the disputed territory north of it and a portion of the northwest corner of Sandusky County. They also passed an act appropriating \$300,000 and authorizing the Governor to borrow \$300,000 more, to carry into effect all laws in regard to the northern boundary.

They also adopted a resolution inviting the President to appoint a commissioner to go with the Ohio commissioners to run and remark the Harris line.

Until this time the citizens in the disputed territory had been divided, part adhering to Michigan and part to Ohio.

But now a new move was made—one of diplomacy. In February, 1820, the Ohio Legislature passed an act appointing three commissioners to locate a route for a navigable canal between Lake Erie and the Ohio River. An officer was appointed to definitely locate the line of the canal to Lake Erie, but when he reached Toledo, he found the citizens divided in their allegiance to the State of Ohio and the Territory of Michigan. He told them that Ohio would never consent to build the canal to Toledo if it was to become a part of Michigan. It is wonderful how rapid a change of heart occurred, and from that time on the united influences of her citizens were with Ohio.

On June 15, 1836, Michigan was admitted into the Union with her southern boundary limited to the Harris line. There had been bitter feeling engendered, some bloodshed and much money expended in the controversy, but now the storm was over. If all were not satisfied, they at least acquiesced.

CHAPTER III

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES—CANALS AND RAILROADS

THE CANAL IN THE MAUMEE VALLEY.

In 1820 the Legislature of Ohio appointed three commissioners to locate a route for a navigable canal between Lake Erie and the Ohio River, and provided for its location through the Congress lands purchased of the Indians a few years before.

Little or nothing was done until 1824, when a survey and estimates were made for a canal from the Ohio River at Cinicinnati through the Maumee Valley to the Maumee River at Defiance, and thence along the north-west bank of the river to the head of the bay. One half or more of the survey was through an unbroken forest, from St. Marys to the Auglaize, for 40 miles there was not a house. In June, 1826, the survey of the Wabash division was begun, but little progress was made. Colonel Shriver, at the head of the surveying party from the beginning. In March, 1827, whole party. He was succeeded by Col. Asa Moore, his assistant, who continued the survey through 1826 and 1827 along the Wabash, and in 1827 and 1828 along the Maumee, until Colonel Moore also fell a victim to the disease, so prevalent, dying in his tent at the head of the Maumee rapids.

The survey was completed by Col. Howard Stansberry, who had been a member of the party from the beginning. In March, 1827, Congress granted to the State of Indiana a quantity of land equal to one-half of five sec-

tions in width on each side of the proposed canal. An act to aid the State of Ohio in extending the Miami Canal from Dayton to Lake Erie, and to grant a quantity of land to the State to aid in the construction, was passed May 24, 1828.

The work on the canal dragged along very slowly, from the middle of August until the middle of October. Men could not be had to face the dread disease, ague, and labor on the canals had virtually to cease during these months; during the rainy season the Black Swamp, as all the Maumee Valley was termed, was impassable for teams to bring in supplies; and, to add to the difficulties, the contractors had frequently to stop for want of money to pay their hands, at times work having to be entirely suspended on account of the failure of the State to furnish money. In the annual report, dated January 2, 1843, the commissioners state that for the previous 15 months not a dollar in money had been paid to the contractors, and that there was then due about \$500,000.

The Ohio division, known as the Miami and Erie Canal, was opened for business in June, 1845. Thus it will be seen that the Ohio canals were commenced in 1825 and completed in 1845, or a period longer than it is estimated that it will take to construct a sea-level canal at Panama.

Yet none but an early settler can conceive what the difficulties were, that were contended

with. The greatest of these was chills and fevers. It was a brave man that could be induced to labor on the canal in the Black Swamp from July until November. Many gave up their lives to the dread enemy.

But with the opening up of the canal to commerce, a new impetus was given to the settlement of Northwestern Ohio. To the markets that sprang up along the canal, grain was hauled 20 and 30 miles, and lumber, staves and hoop-poles from 10 to 15 miles.

RAILROAD BUILDING.

But the human race is never satisfied. No sooner than the people of Northwestern Ohio had the canal, than they clamored for more rapid transportation. And so what was then known as the Ohio & Indiana Railroad was built from Crestline to Fort Wayne, Indiana. It was completed in 1853 to Lima; to Van Wert in 1854; and to Fort Wayne in 1855. This road afterward became the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago. The Dayton & Michigan was built in 1858; the Lake Erie & Western in 1872; the Chicago & Erie in 1881; the Ohio Southern in 1894; the Lima Northern in 1897; and the Columbus & Lake Michigan in 1898. The Wabash was built to Fort Wayne in 1856; the Grand Rapids & Indiana in 1870; the Fort Wayne, Jackson & Saginaw (now the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern) in 1870; the Muncie (now the Lake Erie & Western) in 1872; the New York, Chicago & St. Louis (Nickel Plate) in 1882; and the Findlay, Fort Wayne & Western (now the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton) in 1892. The Toledo, Delphos & Indianapolis, built in July, 1875; the Delphos & Kokomo, built in 1877; the Delphos, Bluffton & Frankfort, the Toledo, Cincinnati & St. Louis, the Dayton, Covington & Toledo, the Cincinnati Northern, the

Dayton & South-Eastern, the Toledo & Grand Rapids, and the Toledo & Maumee at some point were all merged in 1877 into what was known as the Toledo, Cincinnati & St. Louis system of over 700 miles of narrow gauge road, which have since been changed to standard gauge; although each was a small affair, they answered their purpose in their day, and helped to develop the country.

Such have been the rapid strides in railroad building in half a century, that one is hardly ever out of sight of the smoke of a locomotive, or the sound of a train of cars, and yet if the equipment of the roads were increased 33 per cent., they would not be able to handle the produce and merchandise promptly. The number of railroads built in the last half century but faintly explains the growth of transportation. In 1855 a car-load of grain, lumber, or other articles was 18,000 lbs. and 14 cars on our level roads was a train load. Now a minimum car-load is 40,000 lbs., and many of their new cars the railroads insist on being loaded to 110,000 lbs., and a train load is anywhere from 40 to 60 cars.

With the double tracks and the improved system of running their trains, the increase of capacity of the transportation lines is beyond computation and yet wholly inadequate.

In 1856 the rate of freight from Chicago to New York was 56 cents per 100 pounds, and railroad men said they did not believe it would ever be profitable at that. Now they are anxious to get it at one-fourth that rate.

What must have been the surprise of a delegation of Wyandot Indians, who visited their former home, Upper Sandusky, a few years ago. And yet sight only reveals a tithe of the improvement.

To enter upon a description of the advance made in improvements in the fields of either agriculture or manufacture would be so far be-

yond the comprehension of the writer that he will not attempt it. Let the fact that the vast improvement in railroad facilities has fallen so far short of the needs of the community answer.

And yet the rounding out of another half century will not exhaust the capacity for improvement of the Black Swamp of Northwestern Ohio.

CHAPTER IV

NORTHWESTERN OHIO AND THE BLACK SWAMP

Description and History of the Counties of Allen, Auglaize, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Lucas, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Williams and Wood—Life Among the Pioneers—The Indian Character, Customs and Religion Described—Corn Fields and Gardens of the Red Men—A Game of Indian Foot Ball—Indian Wars—Famous Chiefs—Story of the Notorious Girtys—Battles and Incidents of the War of 1812—Famous Generals of the Civil War—Discovery of Oil and Gas—The Grand Reservoir—Population Statistics.

ALLEN COUNTY.

This county was formed April 1, 1820, being named for Col. Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame. It was formed out of the lands obtained from the Indians, in the treaty of 1818. Its history during the stirring times of the War of 1812 and the Indian wars was confined to the western part of the county. In 1812 Colonel Poague, of General Harrison's army, built a fort on the west bank of the Auglaize River, and named it "Fort Amanda" for his wife. In the following year there were a number of scows built here for the navigation of the Auglaize River which was then navigable for fair-sized flatboats and pirogues. A national cemetery was established here. The first settlers in the county located at Fort Amanda in 1817, and the first white child born in the county was born here to Andrew Russell and wife and became the wife of Charles C. Marshall, a long-time resident of

Delphos. Samuel McClure settled on the Ottawa River, northwest of Lima, in 1825. His nearest neighbors at that time lived near Fort Amanda and near Roundhead. In 1826 Morgan Lippincott, Benjamin Dolph and Joseph Wood settled on Sugar Creek. Lima, the county seat, was laid out by Capt. James Riley in 1831, on land purchased by the State of Ohio for that purpose, and afterwards paid for by the commissioners out of the proceeds of the sale of lots. In August, 1831, the name was suggested by Judge Patrick G. Goode. Among the first settlers in Lima, were Absalom Brown, John P. Mitchell, John F. Cole, Dr. William Cunningham, John Brewster, David Tracy, John Mark and John Bashore.

Robert Bower, who came to Lima with his parents in 1834, and who knew every man and child in the town, says in his reminiscences that the latch strings of the citizens were always out and they were always ready to share the last pint of meal with the needy, regardless

of where the next was to come from. As the nearest mills were at a great distance and there were no roads to speak of, they had recourse to hand mills and the tin grater. He says: "My daily labor was to gather corn and dry it in a kiln, after which I took it on a grater made from an old copper kettle or tin bucket, and after supper made meal for the Johnny-cake for breakfast; after breakfast I made meal for the pone for dinner; after dinner I made meal for the mush for supper."

Their house was up-to-date, was made of round logs, with clapboard roof, and puncheon

more to Benjamin C. Faurot than to any man that has ever lived there.

The population of the cities and villages of Allen County was as follows in 1900:

LaFayette	316
West Cairo	338
Harrod	370
Elida	440
Beaver Dam	477
Bluffton	1,783
Spencerville	1,874
Delphos (2,289 in Allen County).....	4,517
Lima	21,723

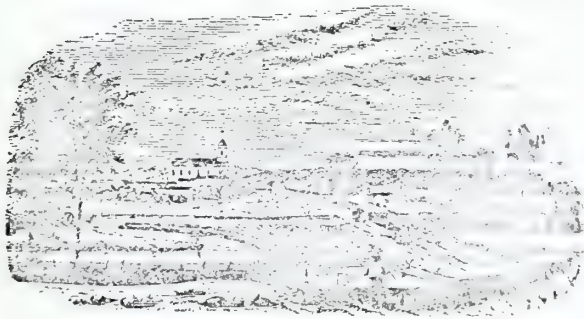
Allen County in 1830 had a population of 578; in 1900 the population was 47,976.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY

Was formed in 1848, from parts of Allen, Putnam, Van Wert, Mercer, Darke, Shelby and Logan counties, and is the southern extremity of the Black Swamp. It occupies the dividing line between the waters of Lake Erie and the Ohio River. The writer recollects, when a boy, of hearing a man say that he lived on the very top of the dividing ridge and that when he filled his hog trough too full, what ran out of the south end ran to the Ohio River, and what ran out of the north end ran to Lake Erie.

The Shawnee Indians had their headquarters at Wapakoneta, and gave the name to the town. They remained there until they were removed west of the Mississippi in 1832. The following year Wapakoneta was platted by the original proprietors—Robert J. Skinner, Thomas B. Van Horne, Joseph Barnett, Jonathan K. Wilds and Peter Aughenbaugh.

Judge Burnet, of Cincinnati, who held court at Detroit in 1796, relates that in one of his trips from Cincinnati to Detroit on horseback, he stopped at Wapakoneta and called upon the old chief, Bohengeehalus, who received him kindly and called in some of the young men, requesting them to get up a game of foot ball.



VIEW OF LIMA FROM THE WAPAKONETA ROAD—1846.

Showing the Covered Bridge over Hog Creek and the Second Court House.

From Howe's "Historical Collections of Ohio."

floor, and had a parlor, dining room, kitchen and work shop, but for convenience sake all were in one.

The changes that have taken place in the last 70 years are wonderful. The Ottawa River, that was then called "Hog Creek," from the Indian words *Koshko Sepe*, which Count Coffinberry changed to *Swinonia* in one of his poems, is now only sufficient for drainage for the city and surrounding country. In former years when high water came, it was weeks before they subsided. The growth of Lima was greatly accelerated by the discovery of oil by Benjamin C. Faurot in drilling for gas. And it is safe to say that Lima owes her prosperity

A purse of trinkets was soon made up and all the village gathered on the lawn. The men played on one side and the women on the other. The rules did not allow the men to touch the ball with their hands on penalty of forfeiting the purse, while the women had the privilege of picking it up, running with it and throwing it as far as they could. When a woman had the ball, the men were allowed to catch and shake her and even throw her on the ground, if necessary to extricate the ball from her hand, but they were not allowed to touch or move it, except with their feet. At the opposite extremes of the lawn, stakes were placed about six feet apart. The contending parties placed themselves in front of the stakes, the men on one side and the women on the other. The party that succeeded in driving the ball through the stakes at the goal of their opponents were the victors and received the purse. All being ready the old chief went to the center of the lawn and threw up the ball making an exclamation in the Shawnee language, when he immediately retired and the game began. The parties were very evenly matched, being about a hundred on a side. The game lasted more than an hour with great animation, but was finally decided in favor of the women, by the power of a woman who secured the ball and held to it, in spite of the men who seized her and attempted to shake it from her uplifted hand. She dragged them along until sufficiently near to throw it between the stakes. The women were most active and most frequently had possession of the ball; then the young men would immediately seize them and always succeeded in rescuing the ball but frequently not until their female competitors were thrown on the grass. When the contending parties retired from the field of strife, it was pleasant to see the feeling of exultation depicted on the faces of the victors.

David Robb, one of the agents for the removal of the Indians, had some great experiences among them. He says that intemperance prevailed to a great extent among the Indians. Yet there were those who refused to associate with those that drank. The temperate class cultivated their little farms with a degree of taste and judgment and some of them could cook a good meal and could make good butter and cheese. Many of them were quite ingenious mechanics, had a fair knowledge of the use of tools, and could manufacture all needed farm implements. He says there is, with all their foibles and vices, something fascinating in the Indian character, and one cannot long associate with them without having a growing attachment for them. He says the Indian is emphatically the natural man, and it is easy to make an Indian out of a white man, but very difficult to civilize and Christianize an Indian.

At an early day a Society of Friends was established among the Shawnee at Wapakoneta, where they erected a grist-mill, and a sawmill, and built a residence for Isaac Harvey the superintendent, and his family. Under his instruction, the Indians acquired considerable proficiency in farming and rapid progress in civilization, and in the acquisition of property. Domestic animals were introduced, and the horse brought into use to relieve the women of the labor of plowing the land, and carrying the burdens. After overcoming their parents' aversion to having their children educated, the young people made rapid progress in their studies. When the Indians were removed to Kansas, the Friends' mission, under the care of Henry Harvey, went along and there he remained until 1842.

St. Marys, on the bank of the Grand Reservoir, was noted in an early day as being the village of the Shawnees, with whom James

Girty lived. General Wayne gave it the name of "Girty's town".

It is also noted as being the last resting place of that noble patriot and brave soldier, Gen. August Willich. When treason threatened the life of the nation, he offered his service as a private in the Ninth Regiment, Ohio Vol. Inf., and afterward helped raise the 32nd Indiana Regiment, composed of Germans, which he commanded until he was promoted to a brigadier general, in July, 1862. He was brevetted major general in 1865. He was idolized by the soldiers of his regiment and of the brigade, and had the confidence of the whole army. Where Willich ordered the men they were ready to go, knowing he would not send them where he was not willing to go himself.

At the battle of Liberty, in the opening of the Rosecrans campaign, General Willich took the gap with his brigade. Rosecrans characterized it as the finest fighting he witnessed during the war (the 15th and 49th Ohio belonged to his brigade).

At the battle of Mission Ridge, Grant gave his orders for the center to take the enemy's works at the foot of the ridge, and stay there. Willich's and Hazen's brigades were in the front, with Sheridan's and other brigades in the rear. The whole line moved in double-quick time through woods and fields and carried the works, Willich's brigade going up under the concentrated fire of batteries located at the point where two roads met. At this point General Willich saw that to obey General Grant's order and remain in the works at the foot of the ridge would be the destruction of the center; to fall back would be the loss of the battle with the sacrifice of Sherman. In this emergency, with no time for consultation with the division general or any other commander, he sent three of his aids to different

regiments and rode himself to the Eighth Kansas, and gave the order to storm the top of the ridge. This was done as if on parade, and was the wonder of the world, as to its conception and the brilliance of its conception.

New Bremen was settled in 1832 by a company organized in Cincinnati for the purpose of locating a town and colonizing it with Germans. On a tract of 10 acres they laid out 102 lots, each 66 by 300 feet. Each member was entitled to one lot and the rest were offered for sale at \$25 each. The plat was recorded in Mercer County, June 11, 1833. The journey of the first six members of this company from Cincinnati occupied 14 days. This colony was composed of Protestants and a house of worship was built in 1833, at a cost of \$40, which answered for both church and school.

Minster, also a German town, was organized in 1833 by a stock company from Cincinnati, and was settled by Catholics.

Auglaize County, in 1900, had a population of 31,192. Following is given a list of the cities and villages in the county, with their population in 1900:

Kossuth	153
New Knoxville	436
Waynesfield	542
Cridersville	581
New Bremen	1,318
Minister	1,468
Wapakoneta	3,915
St. Marys	5,359

DEFIANCE COUNTY.

This county was organized March 4, 1845, from Williams, Henry, and Paulding counties. It takes its name from Fort Defiance.

It was favorably situated for early settlement, for at an early day the Maumee, Tiffin, Blanchard, Auglaize, and Ottawa rivers, which center in it, were navigable for pirogues and

flatboats—the means by which the settlers were supplied with provisions for many years. The Tiffin from the north was navigable for about 50 miles; the Auglaize as far as Wapakoneta; the Blanchard for many miles; the Maumee as far as Fort Wayne, and then the St. Mary's as far as the town of that name, and the St. Joseph for quite a distance. All paid tribute to Defiance and provided markets for her surplus corn,

During the Indian occupancy it was headquarters for their meetings for consultation and for trading. They could reach it by canoe and bring in their furs to the traders located along the Maumee. In October, 1792, the greatest Indian council ever known was held here. The council represented a larger territory than any ever held before or since on American soil. All the chiefs of all the tribes of the Northwest were here, representatives of the seven nations of Canada and of the 27 nations beyond Canada. Cornplanter and 48 chiefs of the Six Nations of New York were on hand. Three men of the Gore Nation were here, whom it had taken a whole season to reach the place of meeting. Cornplanter said that there were so many nations represented that he could not name them. The question of peace or war was long and earnestly discussed. The Shawnees were for war and the Senecas for peace.

A description of the character of the Delaware Indians, as given by John Bricknel, who was a prisoner four years, is interesting. He was captured when nine years of age near Pittsburg, and adopted by a Delaware Indian, named Whingy Pooshies, and lived with the latter's family four years. He said he was treated very kindly, every way as one of themselves, and had every opportunity of learning their manners customs and religion. He thought he had been influenced for good more from what he learned among these Indians

than from what he learned among the whites. Honesty, bravery and hospitality were cardinal virtues among them. When strangers came among them, they were not asked if they wanted anything, but a runner would start out, proclaiming, "Strangers have arrived." On this, every family provided of the best they had and took it to the strangers without a thought of receiving anything in return. When they took their leave, they were helped on their journey. They worshiped the Great Spirit, whom they called "Manitou." He said that he never on "even one occasion knew of their using the name irreverently." They had no term in their language by which they could swear profanely. The young honored the aged. The first corn that was fit to use was made a feast offering. The first game that was taken on a hunting expedition was dressed whole without breaking a bone, with the head, ears and hoofs; and being cooked whole, all ate of it, and what was left was entirely burned up. And in respect to things clean and unclean, they followed the Jewish custom. They had no public worship, except the feasts, but frequently observed family worship, in which they sung and prayed. They believed in the resurrection after death, and in future rewards and punishments. Their cruel treatment of their enemies in war seemed to be the carrying out of the precepts. "An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth," and "Blood for blood."

When Bricknel was exchanged, the tribe came opposite the fort at Defiance, and "Whingy Pooshies told me that I must go over to the fort. The children hung around me crying and asking if I was going to leave them. I told them I did not know. When they got over to the fort and were seated with the officers, Whingy Pooshies told me to stand up, which I did. He then arose and addressed me with these words: 'My son, these

are men of the same color with yourself and some of your kin may be here or they may be a great way off. You have lived a long time with us. I call upon you to say if I have not been a father to you. If I have not used you as a father would a son.' I said: 'You have used me as well as a father could use a son.' He said, 'I am glad you say so. You have lived long with us. You have hunted for me, but your treaty says you must be free. If you choose to go with people of your own color, I have no right to say a word, but if you choose to stay with me, your people have no right to speak. Now reflect on it and make your choice, and tell us as soon as you make up your mind.' I was silent for a few moments, in which time I seemed to think of most everything. I thought of the children I had just left crying. I thought of the Indians I was so attached to, and I thought of my people whom I remembered and this last thought decided, and I said I would go with my kin. The old man then said: 'I have raised you. I have taught you to hunt and you are a good hunter. You have been better to me than my own sons. I am now getting old and cannot hunt. I thought you would be a support in my old age. I leaned on you as a staff. Now it is broken, you are going to leave me, and I have no right to say a word, but I am ruined.' He then sank back in tears in his seat. I heartily joined him in his tears, parted with him, and have never seen or heard of him since."

O. M. Spencer, the 11 year old boy, who was captured about the same time that Bricknell was, gives this description of the location that afterward became the site of Fort Defiance. On the high ground extending from the Maumee River, a quarter of a mile up the Auglaize, about 200 yards in width, was an open space, on the west and south of which were oak woods, with hazel undergrowth. Within

this opening a few hundred yards above the point, on the steep bank of the Auglaize, were five or six cabins and log houses inhabited principally by Indian traders. The most northerly, a large, hewed-log house, divided below in three apartments, was occupied as a warehouse, store and dwelling by George Ironsides, the most wealthy and influential of the traders on the point. Next to him was the houses of Pirault (Pero) a French baker and M. Kenzie, a Scot, who in addition to merchandising followed the occupation of a silversmith, exchanging with the Indians his silver ear-drops and other silver ornaments at an enormous profit, for skins and furs. Still further up were several other families of French and English, and two American prisoners. Henry Ball, a soldier taken at St. Clair's defeat, and his wife Polly Meadows, captured at the same time, were allowed to live here and by labor to pay their masters the price of their ransoms, he by boating to the rapids of the Maumee, and she by washing and sewing. Fronting the house of Ironsides and about fifty yards from the bank was a small stockade, enclosing two hewed-log houses, one of which was occupied by James Girty, a brother of Simon, the other by McKee and Elliott, British Indian agents living in Detroit. And more than a mile south of this was the large Indian village of Blue Jacket, and, below, the extensive prairie covered with corn.

Young Spencer was redeemed from captivity on the last day of February, 1793, through the solicitation of Washington to the Governor of Canada, who instructed Colonel Elliott, the Indian agent, to intercede for his release. He was taken down the Maumee in an open pirogue; thence in a canoe, paddled by two squaws, along the shore of Lake Erie to Detroit; thence by a vessel on Lake Erie to Erie, Pennsylvania; thence to Forts Chippewa and

Niagara; thence across New York State, then mostly a wilderness, to Albany; thence down the Hudson to New York City; thence through Pennsylvania and down the Ohio to Cincinnati—a distance of fully 2,000 miles.

Young Spencer became a Methodist minister and reared a family. One of his sons was postmaster at Cincinnati in 1850, and another, judge of its Superior Court.

It is said that General Wayne was eight days building Fort Defiance, beginning on the 9th of August and finishing on the 17th. After surveying its blockhouses, pickets, ditches and fascines, Wayne exclaimed: "I defy the English, Indians and all the devils in hell to take it." General Scott, who happened to be standing at his side remarked: "Then call it Fort Defiance." General Wayne in a letter to the Secretary of War at this time said: "Thus, sir, we have gained possession of the grand emporium of the hostile Indians of the West without loss of blood. The very extensive and cultivated fields of corn and gardens show the work of many hands. The margins of the beautiful rivers, the Miamis of the Lake (Maumee) and Auglaize, appear like a continued village for a number of miles, both above and below this place, nor have I ever beheld such fields of corn in any part of America, from Canada to Florida. We are now employed in completing a strong stockade fort with four good blockhouses by way of bastions at the confluence of the Maumee and the Auglaize, which I have called Defiance."

The population of Defiance County in 1900 was 26,387, while that of her cities and principal villages was as follows:

Ney	289
Sherwood	455
Holtzville	2,520
Defiance	7,579

FULTON COUNTY

Was organized in 1849. Its soil is of the same general class as that of the other counties of Northwestern Ohio. Its population in 1850 was 7,781; in 1860, 14,043; in 1870, 17,789; in 1890, 22,023; in 1900, 22,801. It has the following villages with population in 1900: Metamora, 263; Fayette, 886; Swanton, 887; Archibald, 958; Delta, 1,230, and Wauseon 2,148.

Fulton was formed from Lucas, Henry and Williams counties and is entitled to a share in their early history. The first settlers in the present limits of Fulton county were Valentine Winslow, Col. Eli Phillipa and David Hobart, who came in 1833.

A Presbyterian mission was established on the south bank of the Maumee 10 miles above Fort Meigs and eight below the head of the rapids, in 1821 or 1822. At the time of its establishment there was no settlement on the south side of the river above Waterville. Rev. Isaac Van Tassel was the principal of the mission; Mr. Sackett and Rev. M. Coe, assistants, with their wives and several maiden ladies as teachers. Together with a few mechanics and laborers they formed the community of white people that established and carried forward the enterprise successfully for many years until the Indian tribes were by degrees moved to their far off homes in the West. They had much with which to contend. White men and half-breeds sold whisky to the Indians and used all their influence to prevent them from patronizing the mission, even hiring the Indians to keep their children from school. It was no light task to establish a school among these wild fierce people, the boys and girls never having been restrained or their freedom abridged in the least. To gather together from 100 to

200 boys and girls of all ages from six to 20 years was no easy task. After the Indians became acquainted with the mission people and knew that the latter were their friends, their children were sent to school and most of the time there were from 80 to 150 in attendance.

The society bought a large and valuable tract of land, including an island of about 300 acres, upon which they opened up a farm. Here these faithful missionaries labored, often discouraged no doubt. Their efforts to inculcate the precepts of the Bible amid the constant wars and the bad influence of the white traders and the renegade whites, who had taken up their residence with the Indians to escape from the penalty of their crimes, did not bear the fruit hoped for. But after the removal of the Indians to the West it appears that the scholars from the mission school were the first to engage in farming and cattle-raising and to adopt the dress and habits of the whites.

Col. D. W. Howard gives some of the prices paid for furs at his father's store in the early days: \$3 to \$4 for bear; the same for otter; 40c for muskrat; 30c for mink; 50c for fox; \$2 for fisher (marten); 25c for coon; and \$25 to \$75 for silver gray fox. In exchange were given blankets at \$2 and \$6; turkey calico, 75c to \$1 per yard; blue calico, 50c to 75c per yard; lead 50c per pound and powder, \$1 per pound.

The old Council Elm, a tree of gigantic size, stood on the north bank of the river very near the rapids. It had been selected by the Indians as the place of meeting for their councils, and became known by the citizens as the Council Elm. Here one of the important councils was held, at which Chief Wauseon and his brother Ottokee stated their grievances. They said that bad white men killed their deer, and stole their traps and horses. He appealed to Colonel Jackson, the agent, to ask the Great Father to have the bad whites removed. The speech was re-

ported by Agent Jackson to the President, and he ordered the intruders removed, which order was enforced to the entire satisfaction of the Indians.

HANCOCK COUNTY

Was formed April 1, 1820, and named for John Hancock, first President of the Revolutionary Congress. Its surface is level; the soil, black loam mixed with sand and very fertile. The central and southern part of the county is drained by the Blanchard River and its branches, the Blanchard being a fork of the Auglaize. The Shawnee name of this stream was *Sho-po-qu-a-ti-sce*, or Tailor River. Col. John Johnston stated that Blanchard, for whom this stream was named, was a tailor, or one that sewed garments. He was a native of France, and a man of intelligence; but no part of his history could be obtained from him. He doubtless fled his country for some offense against its laws, intermarried with a Shawnee woman and, after living here 30 years, died in 1802 at or near the site of Fort Findlay. When the Shawnees went West, seven of his children were living, one of whom was a chief. In the War of 1812 a road was cut through this county over which the troops for the Northwest passed. Among these was the army of Hull, which was piloted by Isaac Zane McPherson and Robert Armstrong.

Fort Findlay was built about the 22nd of June, 1812, or a little later. The pickets of the fort enclosed about one acre of ground; within this enclosure were erected a blockhouse and two other small houses used as barracks. The fort stood on the south bank of Blanchard, just west of the present bridge, and was used as a depot for military stores and provisions. About 9 o'clock one dark and windy night in April, 1813, Capt. William Oliver with a Kentuckian left Fort Meigs for Fort Findlay on an errand of importance, the distance being about 33

miles. They had scarcely started on their journey when they unexpectedly came upon an Indian camp, around the fires of which the Indians were busy cooking their suppers. Disturbed by the noise of their approach, the savages sprang up and ran towards them. At this they reined their horses into the branches of a fallen tree. Fortunately the horses, as if conscious of their danger, stood perfectly still and the Indians passed around the tree without making a discovery in the thick darkness. At this junction Oliver and his companion put spurs to their horses and rushed forward into the woods through which they passed all the way to their destination. They arrived safely, but with their clothes completely torn off by the brambles and bushes, and their bodies bruised all over by contusions against the trees. They had scarcely arrived at the fort, when the Indians in pursuit made their appearance, but too late, for their prey had escaped.

Hancock County was for a long time the wonder of the whole country on account of its wonderful gas field. It caused a wonderful boom in real estate and manufacturing, and, had due caution been exercised, would have been of wonderful benefit. As it was, wild speculation ran rife and many fortunes were wiped out entirely, while the more conservative accumulated wealth quite rapidly.

The following cities and villages are located in Hancock County, with population in 1900 as follows:

Jenera	237
Mount Cory	312
Benton Ridge	350
Vanlue	356
Van Buren	367
Arcadia	425
Mount Blanchard	456
Arlington	738
McComb	1,195
Fosterin	7,730
Findlay	17,613

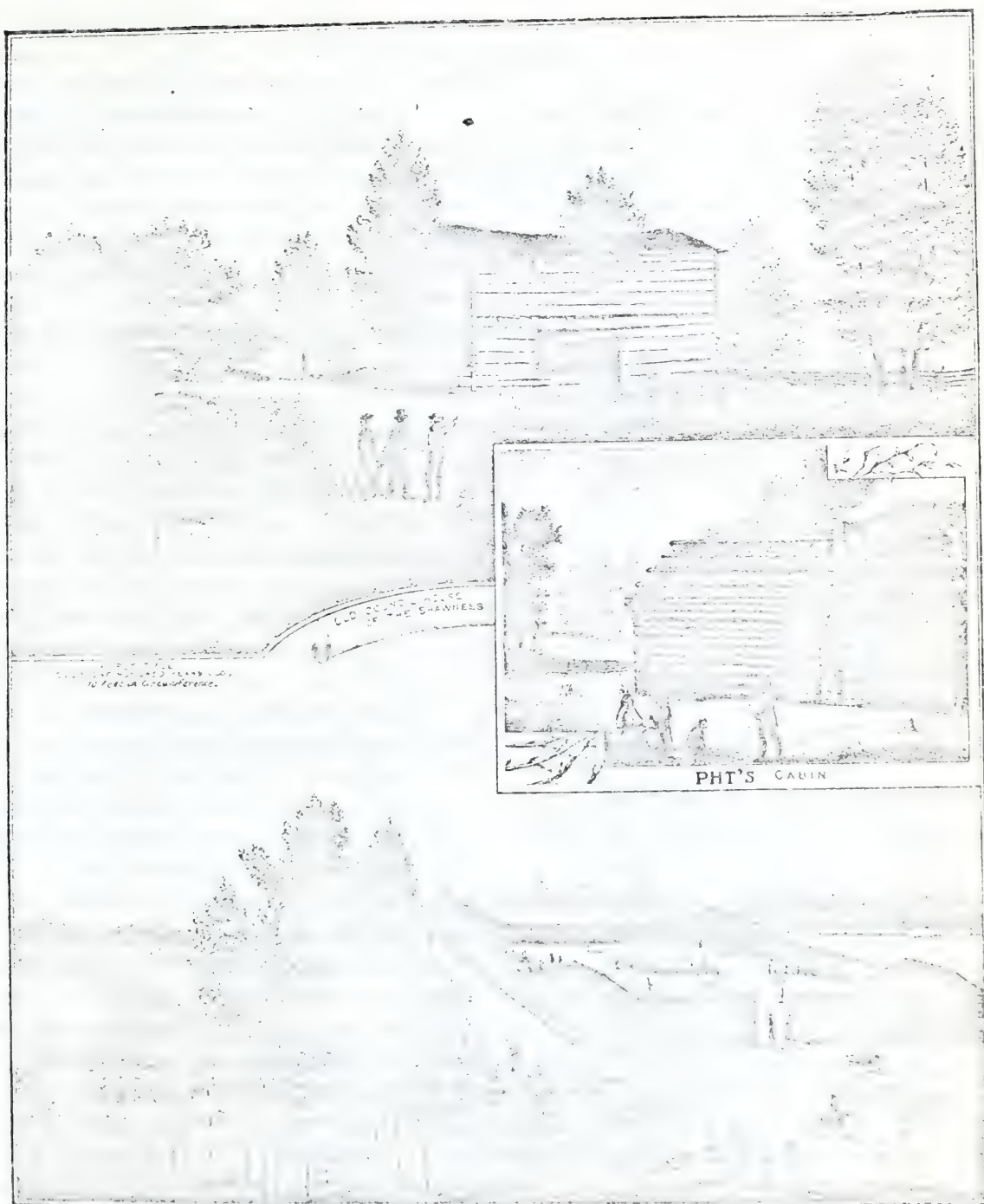
Hancock County in 1830 had a population of 813, and 1900, 41,993.

HARDIN COUNTY

Was formed out of the old Indian territory, April 1, 1820, and contains about 440 square miles. Although formed in 1820, it was not organized until January 8, 1833. About half of the county is undulating, and the other half level, but all is capable of drainage. It is situated on the great water-shed, and is drained by the Scioto and the Blanchard; the former emptying into the Ohio, and the latter into Lake Erie.

On the 11th of June, 1811, one week before the declaration of war, Governor Meigs despatched Duncan McArthur with a regiment of soldiers from Urbana to open a road in advance of General Hull's army, and build a stockade at the crossing of the Scioto River in what is now Hardin County. On the 19th Hull arrived with the residue of his army. This stockade, enclosing about half an acre, and situated about three miles southwest of what is now the city of Kenton, was named "Fort McArthur." There were two blockhouses, one in the northwest angle, and the other in the southeast. Seventy or eighty feet of the enclosure was composed of a row of log corncribs, covered with a shed roof sloping inside. A part of the pickets were of split timber, lapped at the edges; others were round logs set up endways and touching each other. The rows of huts for the garrison were a few feet from the walls. It was a post of much danger, liable at any moment to be attacked. The last vestige of it has long since disappeared. The prompt building of forts reflected great credit on Governor Meig's energy and foresight.

The first family to locate in Hardin County was that of Alfred Hale, who came to Fort Mc-



FORT AMANDA

Built in September, 1812, by United States Troops of the Northwestern Army, under Colonel Poague.

PIONEER SCENES IN ALLEN COUNTY

Arthur in 1817; in 1819 his son James was born.

The first court held in the county was held March 8, 1834, in a blockhouse, the residence of Hon. William McCloud, at Fort McArthur, McCloud being one of the associate judges. The first county officers were elected the following month, the total vote being only 63. Little or no business was done at the first term of court.

The next year when a trial by jury was required, the sheriff found great difficulty in impaneling a jury, the farmers being busy and the country sparsely settled. On the morning of the second day, the judge opened court and asked the sheriff if the jury was full. The sheriff replied: "Not quite full yet. I have eleven men in the jail and my dogs and deputies are out after the twelfth man."

The jail at that time was a log cabin near the fort. The court room was a shed constructed from the side of the blockhouse, with clapboards, with forked saplings for uprights. The benches for the jury and spectators were split puncheons with pins in for legs. The judge was provided with a table and a chair. The jury retired to the woods for their deliberations. In the spring of 1833, the State committee, appointed by the Legislature, selected a site for the county seat on the north bank of the Scioto on part of sections 33 and 34 in Pleasant township, George Houser, Jacob Houser and Lemuel Wilmoth giving 40 acres of their land as an inducement. The committee, having decided upon the site, were unable to agree upon the name but after its selection rode over three miles west with William McCloud to Fort McArthur where he resided in a blockhouse, to get dinner. McCloud was a great hunter, and his good lady had provided an appetizing dinner of wild meat, for they were very hungry. The subject of a name being discussed, they left it to the

decision of Mrs. McCloud who declared in favor of Kenton, in honor of a friend of her husband.

The marsh lands of the county comprise fully 25,000 acres, or about 39 square miles, the Scioto having about 16,000 acres, Hog Creek about 8,000, and about 1,000 acres belonging to the Cranberry marsh. They are all well drained and are mostly fine farming lands, on which are raised immense crops of onions and potatoes.

Hardin County has the following cities and villages with population as follows, according to the census of 1900:

Patterson	219
Ridgeway	447
McGuffey	452
Alger	462
Mount Victory	734
Forest	1,115
Dunkirk	1,222
Ada	2,576
Kenton	6,852

The population of Hardin County in 1830 was 210, and in 1900, 31,187.

HENRY COUNTY

Was formed April 1, 1820, from the Indian territory, and named for Patrick Henry, the Virginia orator and patriot of Revolutionary times. It is a part of the Black Swamp. It was heavily timbered, which delayed its settlement for many years, until railroads, saw-mills and stave factories opened up a market for the timber at remunerative prices. The soil is largely of the swamp order with occasional ridges. The swamp lands were originally covered with black walnut, ash, butternut, beech and hickory.

Napoleon, the county seat, was platted in 1832, and the first dwelling was erected—a log cabin 12 by 14 feet—by Amos Andrews, and used as a tavern.

One of the Girtys resided about five miles above Napoleon at what is known as Girty's point. There seems to be a difference of opinion as to which one. Howe gives it as his opinion that it was George Girty, a brother of Simon. He was an Indian trader, and of as infamous a character as Simon. Howe gives a description of the Girty family, from which the following is taken. The father of the Girtys came from Ireland and settled in Pennsylvania. He was beastly intemperate and nothing ranked higher in his estimation than a jug of whisky. "Grog was his song and grog would he have." His sottishness turned his wife's affections. Ready for seduction, she yielded her heart to a neighboring rustic who to remove all obstacles to their wishes knocked Girty on the head and bore off the trophy of his prowess. Four sons of this interesting couple were left—Thomas, Simon, George and James.

The three latter were taken prisoners in Braddock's war by the Indians. George was adopted by the Delawares, became a ferocious savage and died in a drunken fit. James was adopted by the Shawnees and became as depraved as his other brothers. It is said he often visited Kentucky at the time of its first settlement and inflicted most barbarous tortures on all captive women who came within his reach. Traders who were acquainted with him have related that so ferocious was he that he would not have turned on his heel to save a prisoner from the flames. To this monster are to be attributed many of the cruelties charged to his brother Simon. Yet he was caressed by Proctor and Elliott, the British generals.

Simon was adopted by the Senecas and became an expert hunter. In Kentucky and Ohio he sustained the character of an unrelenting barbarian. To women and children in particular nothing was more terrifying than the

name of Simon Girty. At that time it was believed by many that he had fled from justice and sought refuge among the Indians, his attachment for them being stronger than for his own people, and his cruelty being the result of his inborn humanity, urged on by the excesses perpetrated by the whites that in many cases were scarcely less inhuman than those of their savage foes.

It is but fair to publish another version of the death of the father of the Girty boys, which seems to be borne out by succeeding events.

Willshire Butterfield says that the elder Girty met his death, in a drunken frolic in his own house, by an Indian named "The Fish." John Turner, who lived with the Girtys, avenged his murder by killing The Fish, two years later marrying Mrs. Girty, who was a reputable woman. When Fort Greenville on the Juniata was taken in 1756, Turner, wife and children were carried into captivity. Turner was recognized as the slayer of The Fish, and was put to death in the most inhuman manner. It is said that Thomas Girty, the oldest son, soon after escaped and lived a useful life, dying on Girty's Run near Pittsburg in 1820. Thus only one of the four brothers improved their opportunity for a good and useful life.

During the Dunmore expedition, Simon Girty acted as scout and it is said interpreted the Mingo chief Logan's speech to Gibson. Simon Girty, Mathew Elliott and Capt. Alexander McKee, the latter two Indian traders, deserted from Fort Pitt and made their way to Detroit to join Lieutenant Governor Hamilton, the British commandant. On their way they stopped at Coshocton among the Delawares, and then at the Shawnee towns on the Scioto. They met James Girty, who was engaged in trade with the Indians and easily persuaded him to espouse the British cause. They entered the British service and were sent by

Hamilton—Simon to the Mingoes and James to the Shawnees—to keep the Indians in line for the British.

George Girty was at this time a lieutenant in the Continental Army. A year later in 1779 he deserted to the British.

Reports are conflicting as to the death of Simon Girty. One has it that he met his death at Proctor's defeat, and was killed by Colonel Johnson's men; the other, that he retired to his farm near Malden, where he spent the last few years in great suffering, being entirely blind and crippled with rheumatism, and that he died there, and was buried on his farm, the British soldiers from Malden firing a salute over his grave.

Daniel M. Workman, a resident of Logan County, gave the following account of Simon Girty. He said: "I went to Malden and put up at a hotel kept by a Frenchman. I noticed in the bar room a grey-headed and blind old man. The landlady, who was his daughter, a woman of about thirty years of age, inquired of me, 'Do you know who that is?' pointing to the old man. On my replying, 'No', she rejoined, 'It is Simon Girty.' He had then been blind about four years. He died about two years later."

Henry County has the following cities and villages with their population, according to the census of 1900:

Florida	276
Malinta	357
Hamler	574
Liberty Center	606
McClure	660
Holgate	1,237
Deshler	1,628
Napoleon	3,639

Henry County in 1830 had 262 population and in 1900, 27,282.

LUCAS COUNTY.

This county was formed in 1835 and was named for Robert Lucas, Governor of Ohio from 1832 to 1836. A large portion was formerly included in the Black Swamp. That part of the county bordering on Lake Erie has a sandy soil. The most important event that transpired in the Indian wars took place near the site of Maumee City. General Wayne had planned to take the Indians by surprise and for that purpose had two roads cut—one by way of Fort Wayne and the other by way of St. Marys. While the British and Indians were watching these, he took a middle route by way of Fort Adams on the St. Mary's River near where the Van Wert and Celina road crosses that stream, passing through Van Wert, and on what was known to the early settlers as the Defiance trail. He would have taken the Indians by surprise had not a deserter notified them of the approach of the army. He then established and erected Fort Defiance at the junction of the Auglaize and Maumee.

On the 13th of August, 1794, Wayne sent one, Christopher Miller, who had lived among the Shawnees, as a special messenger to offer terms of friendship. Becoming impatient at the delay, he moved forward on the 16th and met Miller on his return with the message that if the Americans would wait 10 days at Grand Glaize (Fort Defiance) the Indians would decide for peace or war. On the 18th the army arrived at Rock de Boeuf, just south of the site of Waterville, where they erected some slight works as a place of deposit for their heavy baggage, which was named "Fort Deposit." During the 19th the army labored at their works and about 8 o'clock on the morning of the 20th moved forward to attack the Indians, who were encamped on the bank of the

Maumee at and around a hill called "Presque Island," about two miles south of the site of Maumee City, and four south of the British fort, Miami.

General Wayne, in his report of the battle says: "The Legion was on the right flank covered by the Maumee, one brigade of mounted volunteers on the left under Brigadier General Todd, and the other in the rear under Brigadier General Barbee. A select battalion of mounted volunteers moved in front of the Legion, commanded by Major Price, who was directed to keep sufficiently advanced so as to give timely notice for the troops to form in case of action, it being yet undetermined whether the Indians would decide for peace or war.

"After advancing about five miles, Major Price's corps received so severe a fire from the enemy, who were secreted in the wood and high grass, as to compel them to retreat. The Legion was immediately formed in two lines, principally in close thick woods, which extended for miles on our left and for a very considerable distance in front, the ground being covered with old fallen timber, probably occasioned by a tornado, which rendered it impracticable for cavalry to act with effect, and afforded the enemy the most favorable covert for their mode of warfare. The savages were formed in three lines within supporting distance of each other and extending for near two miles at right angles with the river.

"I soon discovered from the weight of the fire and extent of their lines, that the enemy were in full force in front, in possession of their favorite grounds and endeavoring to turn our left flank. I therefore gave orders for the second line to advance and support the first, and directed General Scott to gain and turn the right flank of the savages with the whole force of the mounted volunteers by a circuitous route: at the same time I ordered the front line to ad-

vance and charge with trailed arms, and rouse the Indians from their coverts at the point of the bayonet and, when up, to deliver a close and well-directed fire on their backs and follow with a brisk charge, so as not to give them time to load again. I also ordered Captain Campbell, who commands the legionary cavalry, to turn the left flank of the enemy next to the river and which afforded a favorable field for that corps to act in. All of these orders were obeyed with spirit and promptitude, but such was the impetuosity of the charge by the first line of infantry, that the Indians and Canadian militia and volunteers were driven from all their coverts in so short a time that although every possible exertion was used by the officers of the second line of the Legion, and by Generals Scott, Todd, and Barbee of the mounted volunteers to gain their proper positions, but part of each could get up in season to participate in the action, the enemy being driven in the course of one hour more than two miles through the thick woods already mentioned, by less than half their numbers. From every account the enemy amounted to two thousand combatants. The troops actually engaged against them were less than nine hundred. This horde of savages with their allies abandoned themselves to flight, and dispersed with dismay and terror, leaving our victorious army in full, quiet possession of the field of battle, which terminated under the influence of the guns of the British garrison.

"The bravery and conduct of every officer belonging to the army, from generals down to ensigns, merits my highest approbation. There were some whose rank and situation placed their conduct in a very conspicuous point of view, and which I observed with pleasure and most lively gratitude, among whom I must beg leave to mention Brigadier General Wilkinson and Colonel Hamtramck, the commanders

of the right and left wings of the Legion, whose brave example inspired the troops. To those I must add the names of my faithful and gallant aides-de-camp, Captain DeButt and T. Lewis, and Lieutenant Harrison, who with Adjutant General Major Mills rendered the most essential service by communicating my orders in every direction and by their conduct and bravery inciting the troops to press for victory.

"The loss of the enemy was more than that of the federal army. The woods were strewn for a considerable distance with the dead bodies of Indians and their white auxiliaries, the latter armed with British muskets and bayonets. We remained three days and nights on the banks of the Maumee, in front of the field of battle, during which time all the houses and corn fields were consumed and destroyed for a considerable distance, both above and below Fort Miami, as well as within pistol shot of the garrison, who were compelled to remain tacit spectators to this general devastation and conflagration, among which were the houses and stores and property of Colonel McKee, the British Indian agent and principal in stimulating the Indians in the war now existing between the United States and the Indians."

The loss of the Americans in this battle was 33 killed and 100 wounded. One of the Canadians captured stated that there were 1,400 Indians and 70 Canadians, and that Captain McKee, Captain Elliott and Simon Girty were on the field but at a safe distance in the rear. A soldier that had become detached from the main body met a single Indian in the woods when they attacked each other. A few days later they were found with the soldier's bayonet in the body of the Indian and the Indian's tomahawk in the brain of the soldier.

Several months after the battle of the Fallen Timber, a number of Pottawattamie In-

dians came to Fort Wayne, where they expressed a desire to see "The Wind" as they styled General Wayne. It is said that when the attack on the Indians, who were concealed behind the fallen timber, was commenced by ordering the regulars up, the late General Harrison, then being lieutenant with the title of major, addressed his superior: "General Wayne, I am afraid you will get into the fight yourself and forget to give me the necessary field orders," "Perhaps I may," replied Wayne, "and if I do, recollect the standing order for the day is 'charge the d——d rascals with the bayonets.'"

It is not necessary to follow closely the progress of internal improvements in Toledo. After the northern boundary line of Ohio was permanently located, there were no doubts as to the future of one or the other of the town sites of Vistula or Port Lawrence. Three lots, 60 by 120 feet at the corners of Monroe and Summit streets were offered for \$50 each in 1833, but the opening of the canal in 1845 and the subsequent centering of so many railroads has made Toledo develop into a city almost in a night. In 1833 the two rival towns Vistula and Port Lawrence were united under the name "Toledo."

Lucas County has the following cities and villages within her borders, with population according to the census of 1900:

Sylvania	617
White House	621
Waterville	709
Maumee	1,856
Toledo	131,822

Lucas County had a population of 9,382 in 1840, and 153,559 in 1900.

MERCER COUNTY

Was formed out of the Indian lands, April 1, 1820. The soil is wet and swampy in its

native state, but easily drained and very fertile. The county was named for Gen. Hugh Mercer, who fell at the battle of Princeton, January 3, 1777.

This county was the scene of one of the most important events in the history of the West—St. Clair's defeat. It took place in the southwest corner of the county within two miles of the State line. The great object of St. Clair's campaign was to establish a military post at the Miami village at the junction of the St. Mary's and St. Joseph rivers at what is now Fort Wayne, Indiana, with intermediate posts between it and Fort Washington (Cincinnati) to awe and curb the Indians in that quarter, as the only preventative of future hostilities.

Acting under instructions, St. Clair organized his army and at the close of April, 1791, he was at Pittsburg, to which point troops and munitions of war were being forwarded. On the 15th of May he reached Fort Washington, but owing to various hindrances, among which was mismanagement of the quartermaster's department, the troops instead of being ready to start upon the expedition by the first of August, as was anticipated, were not prepared for many weeks later. From Fort Washington the troops were advanced to Ludlow Station, six miles distant. Here the army continued until September 17th, when, being 2,300 strong exclusive of militia, it moved forward to a point on the great Miami, where was built Fort Hamilton. Thence they moved 44 miles farther and built Fort Jefferson, which they left on the 24th of October and began their toilsome march through the wilderness.

During this time a body of militia amounting to 300 deserted and returned to their homes. The supplies for the army being still in the rear, General St. Clair, entertaining fears that the deserters might meet and seize them for their own use, determined to send back the First

Regiment for the double purpose of bringing up the provisions and if possible of overtaking the deserters. This arrangement having been made, the army resumed its march, and on the 3rd of November arrived at a creek running to the southwest, which was supposed to be the St. Mary's, one of the principal branches of the Maumee, but was afterward ascertained to be a branch of the Wabash. It being then late in the afternoon, and the army much fatigued by a laborious march, they were encamped on a commanding piece of ground, having the creek in front. It was the intention of the General to occupy that position until the First Regiment with the provisions should come up. He proposed on the next day to commence a work of defense agreeable to a plan agreed upon between himself and Major Ferguson, but he was not permitted to do either, for on the next morning, November 4th, half an hour before sun up, the men having just been dismissed from parade, an attack was made on the militia posted in front, who gave way and rushed back into camp, throwing the army into a state of disorder from which it could not be recovered, as the Indians followed close at their heels. The redskins were, however, checked a short time by the first line, but immediately a very heavy fire was commenced on that line and in a few minutes it was extended to the second. In each case the great weight of the fire was directed to the center, where the artillery was placed, from which the men were frequently driven with great slaughter. In that emergency resort was had to the bayonet. Colonel Darke was ordered to make the charge with a part of the second line, which order was executed with great spirit. The Indians immediately gave way, and were driven back several hundred yards, but, for want of a sufficient number of riflemen to preserve the advantage gained, the enemy soon renewed the attack and

the American troops in turn were forced to give way. At that instant the Indians entered the American camp on the left, having forced back the troops stationed at that point. Another charge was ordered and made by the battalions of Majors Butler and Clark with great success.

Several other charges were afterward made and always with equal success. These attacks, however, were attended with heavy loss of men and particularly of officers. In the charge made by the Second Regiment, Major Butler was dangerously wounded and every officer of that regiment fell except three, one of whom was shot through the body. The artillery being silenced and all the officers belonging to it killed but Captain Ford, who was dangerously wounded, and half the army having fallen, it became necessary to gain the road if possible and make a retreat.

For that purpose a successful charge was made on the enemy as if to turn his right, but in reality to gain the road, which was effected. The militia then commenced a retreat followed by the United State troops, Major Clark with his battalion covering the rear. The retreat as might be expected became a flight. The camp was abandoned and so was the artillery for want of horses to move it. The men threw away their arms and accouterments even after the pursuit was abandoned, which was not continued more than four miles. The road was almost covered with these articles for a great distance. All the horses of the General were killed and he was mounted on a broken-down pack horse, that could be scarcely forced out of a walk and it was impossible for him to get forward in person to command a halt till regularity could be restored, and the orders which he dispatched by others for that purpose were wholly unattended to. The rout continued to Fort Jefferson, where they arrived about dark, 27 miles

from the battle-ground. The retreat commenced at half-past 9 and as the battle began at half an hour before sunrise it must have lasted three hours, during which time with one exception the troops behaved with great bravery. This fact accounts for the immense slaughter that took place.

The only charge alleged by the general against his army was want of discipline, which could not be acquired during the short time they had been in the service. But at this late day the general public has reason to lay serious charges against a general that would send half his army back for provisions without entrenching the small remainder while in the enemy's country. And worse yet, to place raw militia a quarter of a mile in front of regular troops. Either one was enough to lose the battle. Had he placed the militia where they would have had the example and assistance of the regular troops, instead of being the cause of throwing the army into confusion, no doubt the result would have been different; or, if he had retained the First Regiment until the army was entrenched the result would have been altogether different.

It is plain at this day that this was a battle lost by the commanding officer.

And a part of the responsibility lays still farther back than the General. It is said that General St. Clair was suffering with a painful disease, so that he could not mount or dismount his horse alone. Such an officer should never been put in command of an army in the enemy's country.

Place the blame where the blame properly belongs—on those in authority and an incompetent officer—and not on the brave troops that gave their lives, a sacrifice to some one's blunders.

Two years later Gen. Anthony Wayne sent a detachment to the battle-ground of St. Clair's

defeat, where they arrived on Christmas Day, 1793. The next day they gathered what bones they could find above ground and buried them, 600 skulls being found among them. After the bones of the brave men had been buried, a fort was built and named "Fort Recovery," in commemoration of the battle-field being recovered from the Indians, who had possession of it in 1791. On the completion of the fort, one company of artillery and one of infantry were left, while the rest returned to Greenville.

Two years later the site of St. Clair's defeat, now Fort Recovery, was again the scene of strife and bloodshed. On the 30th of June, 1794, a very severe and bloody battle was fought under the walls of the fort between a detachment of American troops, consisting of 90 riflemen and 50 dragoons, commanded by Major McMahan, and a very numerous body of Indians and British, who at the same instant rushed on the detachment and assailed the fort on every side with great fury. They were repulsed with heavy loss but again rallied and renewed the attack, keeping up during the whole day a heavy and constant fire, which was returned with spirit and effect by the garrison. The succeeding night was foggy and dark and gave the Indians an opportunity of carrying off their dead by torchlight, which occasionally drew fire from the garrison. They, however, succeeded so well that there were only eight or ten bodies left on the ground, which were too near the garrison to be approached.

On the next morning McMahan's detachment having entered the fort, the enemy renewed the attack and continued it with great desperation during the day but were ultimately compelled to retreat from the same field on which they had been proudly victorious on the 4th of November, 1791.

The expectation of the assailants must have

been to surprise the fort and carry it by storm, for they could not possibly have received intelligence of the movement under the escort of Major McMahan, which only marched from Greenville on the morning previous, and on the same evening deposited in Fort Recovery the supplies it had conveyed. That occurrence could not therefore have led to the movement of the savages.

Judging from the extent of their encampment and their line of march—in 17 columns forming a wide and extended front—and from other circumstances, it was believed that their numbers could not have been less than 1,500 to 2,000 warriors. It was also believed that they were in want of provisions as they had killed and eaten a number of pack-horses in their encampment on their return seven miles from Fort Recovery, where they remained two nights, having been much encumbered with their dead and wounded.

It was afterward ascertained that there were a considerable number of British soldiers and Detroit militia engaged with the savages on this occasion.

In making his preparations for an advance on the site of Fort Defiance, General Wayne caused two roads to be cut—one by way of Fort Wayne and the other by way of St. Marys—so that the Indians might be kept watching and guessing.

He started on the march July 28th, and halted at Girty's town at the crossing of the St. Mary's River and there erected Fort Adams at a point less than a mile east of the Van Wert and Celina road. He then by rapid marches, avoiding both the roads that had been cut as blinds, moved his army by a middle route through Van Wert County. What was known as Wayne's trail was visible from Van Wert north for many years after the settling of the county.

The Grand Reservoir in Mercer County is said to be the largest artificial lake in the world. It is situated on the summit between the Ohio River and the lakes, and is about nine miles long and from two to four miles wide. It was constructed by raising two walls of earth from 10 to 25 feet high, one at the east and the other at the west end of the reservoir. The east one is about two miles and the other about four miles long. These walls with the high ground at the north and south sides form the basin of this large body of water. About one half of the land was a level prairie, the remainder timber. The timber was cut down and the action of the water has preserved it and it lies there to-day as solid as the day the water first covered it.

The reservoir was commenced in 1837, completed in 1845 and cost \$600,000. It covers an area of 17,600 acres, and has an average depth of 10 feet of water.

Before the construction of the reservoir, several persons had purchased and improved land within the boundary. Before the completion of the reservoir a resolution was introduced in the Legislature of Ohio, and passed by a unanimous vote declaring that no water should be let into the reservoir before the same was cleared of timber and the parties paid for this land. An appropriation of \$20,000 was made for this purpose, but this was squandered by the officers and land speculators. When the banks were completed and the water let in, it submerged most of the land within the boundary of the reservoir.

On May 3, 1843, a meeting was held in Celina with Samuel Buckman, Esq., county commissioner, acting as president. It was unanimously resolved that Benjamin Linzee, Esq., should go to Piqua, the headquarters of the Board of Public Works, and lay their grievances with an address before the members

of that body. Mr. Linzee having performed his duty, Messrs. Spencer and Ramsey returned the sneering answer, "Help yourselves if you can."

On May 12th the meeting requested Mr. Linzee to return to Piqua with the answer that if the board did not pay for the land or let off the water, the citizens would cut the bank on the 15th. The reply came back, "The 'Piqua Guards' will be with you and rout on that day." When this response was heard by the people, the muttering thunder around the reservoir was not only loud but deep—every person was excited.

On the morning of the 15th at 7 o'clock, more than 100 citizens with shovels, spades and wheel-barrows were on the spot ready for work. The place selected was the strongest on the bank in the old Beaver channel. The object of the people was not to damage the State, and the dirt was wheeled back on the bank on each side.

It employed the men a day and a half before the cutting was complete. It was dug six feet below the level of the water, and a flimsy breastwork was made to hold back the water when the tools were taken out. When all was ready, Samuel Buckman said, "Who will start the water?" "I," said John Sunday, "I," said Henry Linzee, and in a moment the meandering waters were hurling down 50 yards below the bank. It was six weeks before the water subsided.

As soon as this was known at headquarters, warrants were sworn out for all who were engaged in the work. Thirty-four of the leaders, comprising all the county officers—judges, sheriff, clerk, auditor, treasurer, deputy treasurer, recorder and surveyor—with merchants, farmers and private citizens, were all arrested and bound over to the next term of court. The grand jury refused to find a bill for misde-

meanor and so the matter ended. It cost the State \$17,000 to repair the damage.

The reservoir is a beautiful inland lake and was a great place for fishing until the State officials, in a mistaken idea of economy, leased the lands for oil and thus for the sake of a penny destroyed a dollar. The parties responsible for the leasing should have been met by the jeers of all good citizens the State over. It was little, if any, less than a crime.

The population of the county, in 1830, then including St. Marys—now in Auglaize the most populous part of the county—was 1,100. In 1900 it had a population of 28,021, including the following towns: Chickasaw, 310; Montezuma, 317; Mendon, 599; Cold Water, 627; Fort Recovery, 1,097; Rockford, 1,207; and Celina, 2,815.

PAULDING COUNTY.

This county was formed from the territory ceded by the Indians in the treaty signed in 1818, and was organized in 1820 and named for John Paulding, one of the captors of Major Andre, the British spy.

The greater part of the county was low, wet swampy land and very heavily timbered with oak, black ash, elm and cottonwood. From the date of the completion of the canals, it was visited every year by French Canadians after ship timber, which was rafted down the canal to Toledo, and shipped from there to England. They frequently entered the land and after taking off the ship timber would abandon the land as worthless. But little attempt was made to settle the county except along the Auglaize River, or by persons who depended upon hunting and hauling hoop-poles for a living, until the advent of the stave factories. Then the elm and cottonwood, which had been looked upon as worthless, became most

valuable. Stave factories were located along the railroads and the chopping of the axeman could be heard in every direction. The forests disappeared as if by magic. When the timber was gone, the land passed largely into new hands and farms were rapidly cleared. The land being level and wet, a system of ditching was necessary. In this the pioneers of Paulding were in advance of all others. Ditches were located that were real canals; streams were ditched and in a few years the swamp was changed to a fertile field. With six railroads the improvement was most rapid. Land that a few years ago could be entered for \$1.25 an acre is now selling for \$100 an acre. The county also came to the front in the matter of roads. They built their roads at great expense and then kept them in good condition, and were almost among the first in Northwestern Ohio to commence piking. While Paulding County to appearance is almost perfectly level, yet it has good drainage, the Auglaize and Maumee being the largest streams, with numerous smaller ones that empty into them.

The first court was held in 1840 in Rochester by Judge Emory D. Potter, president judge, with Associate Judges Nathan Eaton, John Hudson and Gilman C. Mudgett. Rochester at that time contained about 20 families, but since has disappeared from the map. From there the county seat was moved to Charloe, in 1841, where it remained until it was moved to Paulding Center, now Paulding.

Charloe was formerly an Indian village of about 600 persons, under Chief Occanoxa. He was a powerful Indian and had in his time been a great warrior; he was wont to boast of the women and children that he had scalped. Charloe was named for an Indian chief of that name who acquired considerable fame as an orator and statesman.

Paulding, the present county seat, was built

out by a company composed of Aughenbaugh, Kiley, Marsh and Hedges, but was not made the county seat for a number of years. The county was the favorite hunting grounds of the Indians, and also of the whites for many years after the Indians left. For many years coonskins were a legal tender, and frequently purchased marriage licenses. The first trading house in the county was opened by Thomas P. Quick—this was for the purpose of trading with the Indians. The next was opened by Horatio N. Curtis. The first white man that settled in the county was John Driver, a silversmith, who had a profitable trade with the Indians. Driver was quiet and could never be prevailed upon to reveal his early history or the place of his nativity.

Paulding, the county seat, is situated on the Cincinnati Northern Railroad and in 1900 had a population of 2,080. It is growing rapidly. The following villages are situated in Paulding County and had the population set opposite their names in 1900:

Haviland	186
Broughton	226
Cecil	326
Oakwood	342
Melrose	383
Latty	444
Scott	547
Grover Hill	655
Antwerp	1,206
Payne	1,336

In 1864 Graft, Bennett & Company, of Pittsburg, established a furnace, for the purpose of making charcoal iron, between Cecil and Paulding on the banks of the Wabash and Erie Canal and built a railroad from Cecil to Paulding. The charcoal was burned in kilns built in the shape of the old-fashioned beehives. They were made of fire brick and plastered with lime. These were filled with cord

wood and it took about four days to burn a kiln and a cord of wood would produce 50 bushels of charcoal. The furnace employed about 250 men in cutting cordwood and burning charcoal. The ore was shipped from Lake Superior on the lakes to Toledo, and then on the canal and railroad to the furnace. They cleared annually about 1,000 acres of land, and used 120 cords of wood a day to make 45 tons of iron.

Charcoal iron was far superior to that made with bituminous coal. Science has now overcome the difference in quality and a charcoal furnace is a back number. The fires were drawn in the furnace and the land made into farms.

Paulding was the headquarters of the hoop manufacturing business, as well as that of staves. Black ash hoops were made by splitting out the timber in pices the width of a hoop and the depth of half a dozen hoops; these were then started at the end with the frow and then put in what was called a break; by bearing down on the piece the split that had been started at the end would follow on down to within 10 inches of the end—this was left to hold the hoops together. An expert hoop-maker would make from \$4 to \$6 a day. They were used for making slack barrels, nail kegs, etc. Then came the round hoops, made of hickory and oak poles. They were made by splitting the poles in halves and, if large, in quarters, and then shaving them. These were used for tight barrels, such as pork barrels, syrup and liquor barrels. Next came the elm hoops, which were made by machinery. The timber was first sawed into planks the proper thickness, next steamed and cut by a machine something in the manner staves are cut, after which they were run through a planer, finally being coiled, eight hoops in a coil.

Slack barrel staves, made from elm and

red oak, were also cut by machinery. The timber was sawed into lengths for a barrel and split into bolts; these were steamed and then cut in a machine. The heading was made from ash, cottonwood and basswood, being sawed out and turned in a machine used for that purpose.

But all this is in the past. Where the dense forests once stood there are now immense corn fields.

In 1830 Paulding County had a population of 161; in 1840, 1,034; in 1850, 1,766; in 1860, 4,945; in 1870, 8,544; in 1890, 25,932; in 1900, 27,528.

When the Wabash and Erie Canal was built, a reservoir was constructed by damming a small stream and building dykes. Thus about 2,000 acres were enclosed. When the State of Indiana abandoned the canal, the reservoir became worthless and a menace to health, and an effort was made to have the State abandon it, but the bill failed to pass. On the night of April 25, 1888, about 200 men proceeded to the lower end of the reservoir, blew up two locks and the bulk head at the lower end of the reservoir and burned the buildings. As there was no object in the State repairing the break, the Legislature passed the necessary act to complete the destruction and the land was ordered sold.

PUTNAM COUNTY

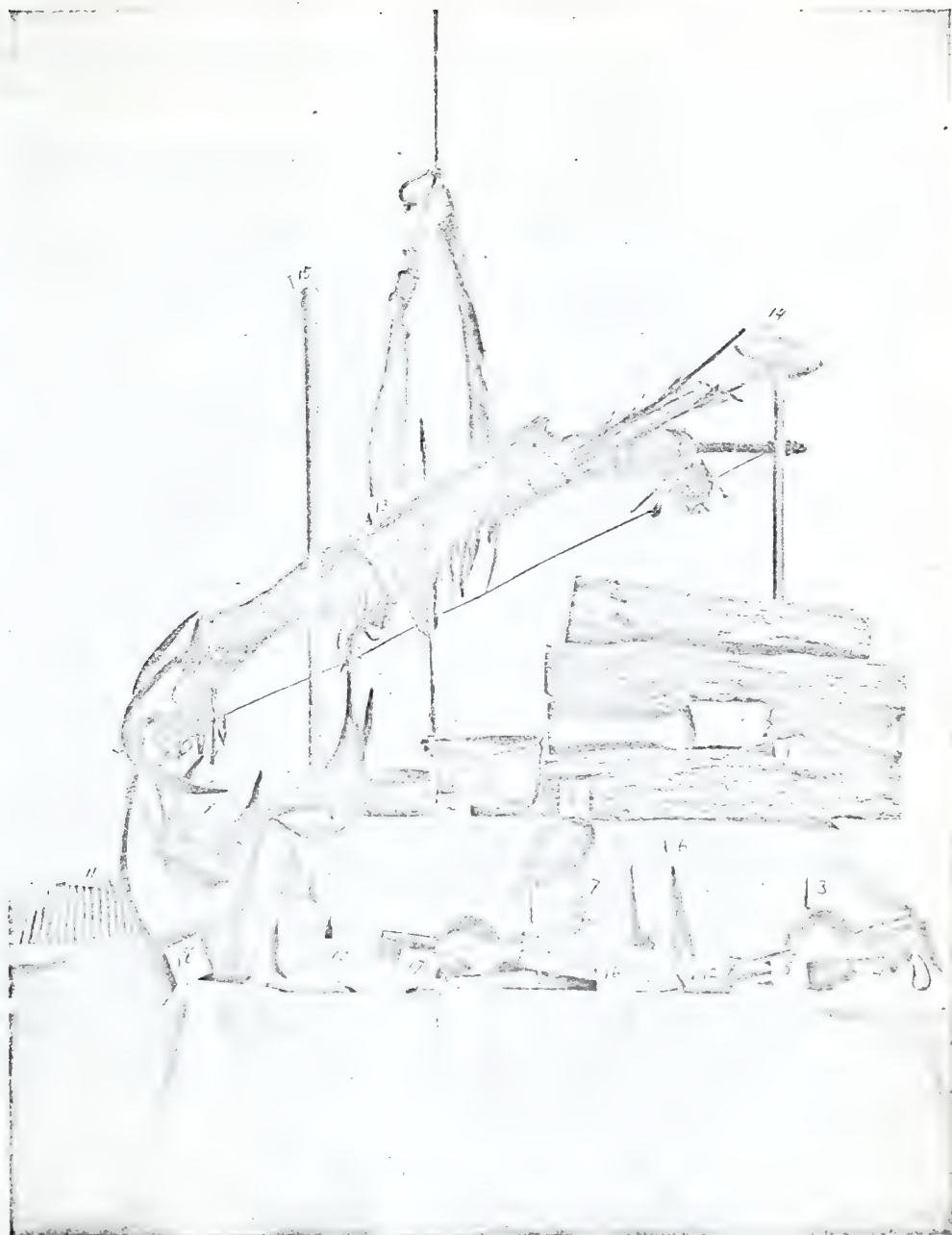
Was formed from the old Indian territory, April 1, 1820, and named for Gen. Israel Putnam, who was born at Salem, Massachusetts, January 7, 1718, and died at Brooklyn, Connecticut, May 29, 1790. The county was not organized until 1834, having been attached to Williams for judicial purposes.

The surface of the county is level. It was a part of the Black Swamp and was covered

with heavy timber—black ash, white elm, cottonwood, and burr oak. What is known as the Sugar Ridge passes entirely across the county and is much higher than the surrounding country; it has a sandy soil and was originally covered with black walnut, butternut, gray ash, red elm, beech, red oak, and sweet oak. Much of the timber was of very large size and would have been quite valuable if it could have been saved until there could have been transportation facilities for properly marketing it. But as this timber was on the highest ground it was the first cleared, and many valuable trees were burned in log heaps. The western part of the county was largely settled by German Catholics. The more central part was settled with what are known as Mennonites. They have peculiar notions about dress, and, while of the best quality it must be made very plain. For many years they did not vote, except at school elections.

A few years ago a daughter of one of this sect with her husband, also a Mennonite, moved West and adopted the fashion in vogue in the neighborhood. After an absence of several years, wishing to visit her former home, she wrote to a friend in Delphos to procure a Mennonite bonnet for her, as she would not wound the feelings of her parents by wearing her hat. She secured her bonnet at Delphos, leaving her hat, and made her visit; when she returned West she stopped at Delphos, left her Mennonite bonnet and donned her hat.

There were two Indian towns in Putnam County, known as Upper and Lower Tawa towns. Fort Jennings was erected on the bank of Jennings Creek, during General Wayne's campaign against the Indians, for the purpose of keeping open his line of supplies. Howe, in his "Historical Collections of Ohio," gives a description and picture of the first house that was built in Putnam County, erected on the



RELICS OF FORT AMANDA AND PIONEER DAYS IN ALLEN COUNTY

PROPERTY OF DR. GEORGE HALL, LIMA

EXPLANATION.—No. 1, Section of Block House, Fort Amanda, showing port-hole; No. 2, Copper Kettles from Indian grave, Fort Amanda; No. 3, Shackle, used on criminal in Allen County Jail, 1832; No. 4, Pat's Pistol, found in Colonel Haase after his death; No. 5, Indian Tomahawk, used as present piece; No. 6, Indian Square Axe; No. 7, Indian Flint Arrow-Head; No. 8, Indian Scalp, taken by an early settler; No. 9, Antlers of Deer, killed by Daniel Snyder, 1849, on the site of the present (1906) High School Building; No. 10, Petrified Leaf, Coal Axe, found near Fort Amanda; No. 11, Flax Hackle of pioneer days; No. 12, Indian Saddle Bird; No. 13, Indian Bow, Quiver and Arrow, used by the Shawnees, 1830; No. 14, Indian War Club; No. 15, Cane made from wood taken from the Allen County Jail, 1832; No. 16, Indian Hunting Knife with sheath; No. 17, Poisoned Indian Arrow; No. 18, Indian War Axe.

Anglaize by Sebastian Sroufe. It was a double log cabin with a space between, which was covered by the same roof.

He also gives an amusing account of capturing a strange animal. He says that after killing it, and thinking it a valuable specimen, he tied it on his horse behind the saddle. His horse began to dance up and down, especially the back part of him, and then trotted off. He had hard trouble to catch him, and was fearful he would have to pass the night in the Black Swamp. A quantity of quills were sticking in his back, gathered from the animal, which proved to be a porcupine. Kalida was originally the county seat, but in 1866 the seat of government was moved to Ottawa, the Court House at Kalida having burned down, and Ottawa having been chosen by the vote of the people.

H. S. Knapp, who at an early day took charge of the *Kalida Venture*, says that he and his wife went to Columbus Grove to a camp meeting, and were dumped in a mudhole; that he tried to pull his wife out, but couldn't, so he backed his horse up and his wife took hold of its tail and was pulled out. William Galbraith tells that his neighbors, an Indian and his wife and their papoose, had a quarrel; the husband pulled out his knife and cut the papoose in two; each having half, this settled their quarrel.

Stansbury tells of a novel way to punish a thief. Indian Tom was a bad Indian. In the spring of 1834 he stole a pony of one of the tribe. He was arrested, tried and convicted. They took him from the camp and divesting him of his clothing tied him to a tree and there left him to remain all night, subject to the tortures of the mosquitoes.

Among the men of note of Putnam County might be mentioned Benjamin Metcalf, James McKenzy, George Skinner, Abraham Sarler,

Dr. Godfrey and C. H. Rice. Gen. A. V. Rice, a son of C. H. Rice, was a gallant soldier during the War of the Rebellion, serving from the 27th of April, 1861, to the close of the war. He was wounded in the battle of Shiloh, where he commanded the 57th Ohio, as lieutenant colonel. He was actively engaged in all the movements of Sherman's army in the siege of Corinth in 1862; also, in the siege of Vicksburg, and was recommended by General Sherman for promotion to brigadier general. In the Atlanta campaign to took part in the battles of Sugar Valley, Resaca, Dallas, New Hope, Big Shanty, and Little Kenesaw from the 5th of May to the 27th of June, 1864. When at the assault of Little Kenesaw he received three wounds simultaneously, one resulting in the amputation of the right leg above the knee, one shattering the left foot, and the third wounding him in the head. For his action at Resaca, Georgia, May 14, 1864, he again received an *impromptu* recommendation from the general officers for promotion to brigadier general for gallant conduct on the field of battle under their personal observation. But the appointment was not made until May, 1865. His wounds kept him out of service until April, 1865, when he rejoined his command at New Bern, North Carolina. After the review at Washington, he took his command to Louisville, Kentucky, where he was assigned to the command of the Third Brigade of the Second Division, 15th Army Corps, which he took to Little Rock, Arkansas, June 24, 1865, and which brigade was mustered out in August, 1865. General Rice was honorably discharged January 15, 1866. His wounded limb caused him great suffering and was mainly the cause of his death. He had one or two operations performed but to no avail.

Putnam County has the following cities and villages, with population in 1900 as follows:

Miller City	163
Fort Jennings	322
Belmore	324
Gilboa	346
West Leipsic	346
Glandorf	349
Ottoville	369
Dupont	370
Pandora	409
Kalida	622
Continental	1,104
Leipsic	1,726
Columbus Grove	1,935
Ottawa	2,322

Putnam County in 1830 had a population of 230, and in 1900, 32,525.

WILLIAMS COUNTY

Was formed from the old Indian territory, April 1, 1820, and organized in April, 1824. It contains about 420 square miles.

The surface is mostly slightly rolling. In the western portion are oak openings with a light sandy soil, with portions of a clayey nature, and in the north a rich black soil.

David Williams, one of the three captors of Major Andre, after whom this county was named, was born in Tarrytown, New York, October 21, 1754, and died near Livingstonville, New York, August 2, 1831. He enlisted in the Revolutionary Army in 1775, and served under General Montgomery at St. Johns and Quebec. During his service his feet were badly frozen, which partially disabled him for life. After the war he bought a farm near the Catskill Mountains.

Among the first settlers in Williams County were: James Guthrie, who settled in Springfield township in 1827; Samuel Holton, who came to St. Joseph township in the same year; also John Zeliker, John Perkins, Josiah Packard, Rev. Thomas J. Prettyman, Mrs. Mary Leonard and her three sons-in-law, and James Oberlense, Sebastian Frame, John Keckman and John Stubbs. The Indians that the whites

found in this county were of the Ottawa, Miami, Pottawattamie and Wyandot tribes. On the west bank of the St. Joseph River, below the site of the village of Denmark, is a low piece of meadow land called "The Indian Meadows," on which the Indians raised corn.

Bryan, the county seat, was laid out in 1840, and was named for Hon. John A. Bryan. When Defiance County was formed, there was considerable strife between Williams Center, Pulaski, and the present location for the seat of justice of Williams County, as the former county seat (Defiance) went with the new County. It was finally settled by John A. Bryan donating the grounds for its location, on condition that it bear his name.

The first discovery of artesian water, now obtained in so many parts of the Maumee Valley, was made at Bryan in 1842. The mineral water discharged from the deep well at Stryker, struck at a depth of 230 feet below the surface, is of a different character. It does not overflow in virtue of its own head, but is thrown out periodically by violent discharges of hydro-sulphuric-acid gas. This is constantly rising in some amount through the water and at intervals of about six hours finds vent in great volume from some subterranean reservoir, throwing out in a foaming torrent many barrels of water. The water possesses medicinal properties or high value.

Williams County has the following cities and villages within her borders, with population in 1900 as follows:

Blakeslee	230
Alvordton	482
Pioneer	603
Edon	740
West Unity	807
Edgerton	1,043
Stryker	1,306
Montpelier	1,860
Bryan	3,131

Williams County had a population in 1830 of 387, and in 1900, 24,953.

WOOD COUNTY.

This county, a part of the Black Swamp, was early in the existence of the republic, the field of strife between government troops and the Indians and their scarcely less barbarous allies, the French and English, which struggle was only finally terminated by Wayne's decisive victory. Previous to that no portion of the West was more loved by the Indians than the Maumee Valley and its tributaries. In the daily journal kept by George Will, under date of August 6, 1794, during Wayne's campaign, he says, when within six miles of the Auglaize River, "I expect to eat green corn to-morrow." On the 8th he says, "We have marched four or five miles in corn fields down the Auglaize and there is not less than a thousand acres around the town." This journal, kept from that time until the return of the army to Fort Greenville, is full of the descriptions of the immense corn fields, large vegetables patches and old apple trees along the banks of the Maumee. During the eight days while building Fort Defiance, the army obtained their bread and vegetables from the corn fields and potato patches surrounding the fort. In the march of the army from Fort Defiance to the foot of the rapids, the army passed through several Indian towns constructed of bark and skins, which indicated plainly that the forces that had occupied them were composed not only of Indians, but of Canadian French and renegade Englishmen.

Judge Burnet says that his yearly trips to Detroit, from 1796 to 1802 made it necessary to pass through some of their towns and convenient to visit many of them. "Of course I had frequent opportunity of seeing thousands of them in their villages and hunting camps

and of forming a personal acquaintance with some of their distinguished chiefs. I have eaten and slept in their towns and partaken of their hospitality, which had no limit but that of their contracted means. In journeying more recently through the State, discharging my judicial duties, I sometimes pass over the ground on which I have seen towns filled with happy families of that devoted race, without perceiving the smallest trace of what had once been there."

The first white settler on the Maumee was Col. John Anderson. He settled at Fort Miami in 1800. Peter Manor, a Frenchman, who was here previous to that, and was adopted by the chief, Tontogany, by the name of Sawendebans, or "Yellow Hair," did not come here to reside until 1808. These were the only ones until May, 1810, when came Amos Spafford, Andrew Race, Thomas Leaming, Halsey W. Leaming, James Carlin, William Carter, George Blalock, James Slason, Samuel H. Ewing, Jesse Skinner, David Hull, Thomas Dick, William Peters, Ambrose Hickox and Richard Gifford, all of whom settled near the foot of the rapids.

When the War of 1812 broke out, there were 67 families residing at the foot of the rapids. Manor, the Frenchman, states that the first intimation the settlers had of Hull's surrendered at Detroit manifested itself by the appearance of a party of British and Indians at the foot of the rapids a few days after it took place. The Indians plundered the settlers on both sides of the river and departed for Detroit. Manor won the confidence of a Delaware chief named Sac-a-manc by pretending friendship for the British, and was by him informed that in a few days a grand assemblage of the tribes of the Northwest was contemplated at Malden, and that in about two days after that assemblage a large number of British and Indians would be at the foot of the rapids on their

march to relieve Fort Wayne, then under investment by the American Army as was supposed. He also informed him that when they came again they would massacre every Yankee found in the valley.

Sac-a-manc left in a day or two for the interior of the State. The day after he left, Manor called upon Major Spafford and warned him of the evil intentions of the Indians as he had received them from Sac-a-manc. The Major placed no confidence in them, and expressed his determination to remain until the army from the interior should reach this frontier. A few days after this, a man by the name of Gordon was seen approaching in great haste. He had been raised among the Indians, and Major Spafford had done him some small favor. Major Spafford met him in his cornfield and was informed that a party of about 50 Pottawattamies on their way to Malden had taken this route and that in less than two hours would be at the foot of the rapids. He also urged the Major to make good his escape immediately. Most of the families at the foot of the rapids had left the valley after receiving the news of Hull's surrender.

Major Spafford assembled what remained on the bank of the river, where they put in tolerable sailing condition an old barge in which some officers had descended the river from Fort Wayne the previous year. They had barely time to get such of their effects as were portable on board and row down to the bend below town, when they heard the Indians' shouts above. Finding no Americans there, they passed on to Malden. The Major and his companions sailed their crazy craft down the lake to the Quaker settlement at Milan, where they remained until the close of the war.

On the breaking up of the ice in Lake Erie, General Proctor with all his disposable force, consisting of regulars and Canadian

militia from Malden, and a large body of Indians under their celebrated chief, Tecumseh, amounting in all to 2,000 men, laid siege to Fort Meigs. To encourage the Indians, Proctor had promised them an easy conquest, and assured them that General Harrison would be delivered up to Tecumseh.

On April 26th the British columns appeared on the opposite bank of the river, and established their principal batteries on an eminence opposite the fort. On the 27th the Indians crossed the river and established themselves in the rear of the American lines. The garrison not having completed their wells, had no water except what they obtained from the river under the fire of the enemy. On the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of May their batteries kept up a constant fusillade of balls and shells on the fort. On the night of the 3rd the British erected a gun and mortar battery on the left bank of the river, within 250 yards of the American lines. The Indians climbed trees in the neighborhood of the fort and poured a galling fire upon the garrison. In this situation General Harrison received a summons from Proctor for a surrender of the garrison, greatly magnifying the latter's means of annoyance. This was answered by a prompt refusal assuring the British general that if he obtained possession of the fort, it would not be by capitulation.

The conversation which took place between General Harrison and Major Chambers, of the British Army, was as nearly as can be recollected as follows:

Major Chambers—General Proctor has directed me to demand the surrender of the post. He wishes to spare the effusion of blood."

General Harrison—"The demand under present circumstances is a most extraordinary one. As General Proctor did not send me a summons to surrender on his first arrival, I

supposed that he believed me to be determined to do my duty. His present message indicates an opinion of me that I am at a loss to account for."

Major Chambers—"General Proctor could never think of saying anything to wound your feelings, sir. The character of General Harrison as an officer is well known. General Proctor's force is very respectable and there is with him a larger body of Indians than before have been embodied."

General Harrison—"I believe I have a very correct idea of General Proctor's force; it is not such as to create the least apprehension for the result of the contest, whatever shape he may be pleased to give it. Assure the General that he will never have this post surrendered to him upon any terms. Should it fall into his hands it will be in a manner calculated to do him far more honor, and to give far more claims upon the gratitude of his government than any capitulation could possibly do."

Apprehensive of such an attack, General Harrison had made the Governors of Kentucky and Ohio minutely acquainted with his situation and had stated the urgent necessity of immediate reinforcements for Fort Meigs. His requisitions had been zealously anticipated and General Clay was at this moment descending the Maumee with 1,200 Kentuckians to his relief. At 12 o'clock on the night of the 4th, an officer, Capt. William Oliver, arrived from General Clay with the welcome intelligence of his approach, stating that he was just above the rapids and could reach him in two hours, and requesting his orders. Harrison determined on a general sally, and directed Clay to land 800 men on the right bank, take possession of the British batteries, spike their cannon and then to immediately return to their boats and cross over to the American fort. The remainder of Clay's force was ordered to land

on the left bank and fight their way to the fort, while sorties were to be made from the fort in aid of these operations. Captain Hamilton was directed to proceed up the river in a pirogue, land a subaltern on the left bank, who should be a pilot to conduct General Clay to the fort, and then to cross over and station his pirogue at the place designated for the other division to land.

General Clay having received these orders, descended the river in order of battle in solid columns, each officer taking position according to rank. Colonel Dudley, being the eldest in command, led the van and was ordered to take his men in the 12 front boats and execute General Harrison's orders on the right bank. He effected his landing at the place designated without difficulty. General Clay kept close along the left bank until he came opposite the place of Colonel Dudley's landing, but not finding the subaltern there he attempted to cross over and join Colonel Dudley; this was prevented by the violence of the currents of the rapids. He again attempted to land on the left bank and effected it with only 50 men amid a brisk fire from the enemy on shore and made his way to the fort, receiving their fire until within the protection of its guns. The other boats under the command of Colonel Boswell were driven farther down the current and landed on the right to join Colonel Dudley. Here they were ordered to re-embark, land on the left bank and proceed to the fort. In the meantime two sorties were made from the garrison, one on the left in aid of Colonel Boswell, by which the Canadian militia and Indians were defeated and Colonel Boswell enabled to reach the fort in safety, and one on the right against the British batteries, which was also successful. Colonel Dudley with his detachment of 800 Kentucky militia completely succeeded in driving the British from their bat-

teries, and spiking the cannon. Having accomplished their object, his orders were peremptory to return immediately to their boats and cross over to the fort, but the blind confidence which generally attends militia when successful proved their ruin.

Although repeatedly ordered by Colonel Dudley and warned of their danger and called upon from the fort to leave the ground, and although there was abundant time for that purpose before the British reinforcements arrived, yet they commenced a pursuit of the Indians, and suffered themselves to be drawn into an ambush by some feint skirmishing, while the British troops and a large body of Indians intercepted their return to the river. Elated with their first success they considered the victory already gained and pursued the enemy nearly two miles into the woods and swamps, where they were suddenly caught in a defile and surrounded by double their number. Finding themselves in this situation consternation prevailed; their lines became broken, disordered, and, huddled together in unresisting crowds, they were obliged to surrender to the mercy of the savages.

The following account of the treatment of the prisoners is from the pen of Joseph R. Underwood, a lieutenant of a Kentucky company commanded by Capt. John C. Morrison.

He says that in retreating towards the batteries he received a ball in his back with a stunning force and fell on his hands and knees. "I arose and threw open my waist coat to see if the ball had passed through me: finding it had not, I ran on and had not proceeded more than a hundred yards before I was made prisoner. In emerging from the woods into an open piece of ground near the battery we had taken, and before I knew what had happened, a soldier seized my sword and said to me, 'Sir, you are my prisoner.' I looked before me and saw

with astonishment the ground covered with muskets. The soldier, observing my astonishment, said, 'Your army has surrendered,' and received my sword. He ordered me to go forward and join the prisoners. I did so. The first man I met whom I recognized was David Smith, of our company. With eyes full of tears, he exclaimed, Good Lord, Lieutenant, what does all this mean?' I told him that we were prisoners of war.

"On the march to the garrison, the Indians began to strip us of our valuable clothing and other articles. One took my hat, another my hunting shirt, and a third my waist coat, so I was soon left with nothing but my shirt and pantaloons. On our approach to the garrison the Indians formed a line to the left of the road, their being a perpendicular bank to the right, and on the margin of which the road passed.

"I perceived that the prisoners were running the gauntlet, and that the Indians were whipping, shooting and tomahawking the men as they ran by their line. When I reached the starting place, I dashed off as fast as I was able, and ran near the muzzles of their guns, knowing that they would have to shoot me while immediately in front of them or let me pass, for to have turned their guns up or down the lines to shoot me would have endangered themselves, as there was a curve in the line. In this way I passed without injury except some strokes over the shoulders with their gun sticks. As I entered the ditch around the garrison, the man before me was shot and fell and I fell over him. The passage was stopped for a while by those who fell over the dead man and myself.

"How many lost their lives at this place I cannot tell, probably between twenty and forty. The brave Captain Lewis was among the number. When we got within the walls

we were ordered to sit down. I lay in the lap of Mr. Gilpin, a soldier of Captain Henry's company from Woodford. A new scene commenced. An Indian painted black mounted the dilapidated wall and shot one of the prisoners next to him. He reloaded and shot a second, the ball passing through him and entering the hip of another, who afterwards died. I was informed, at Cleveland of the wound. The savage then laid down his gun and drew his tomahawk with which he killed two others. When he drew his tomahawk and jumped down among the men, they endeavored to escape from him by jumping over the heads of each other and thereby to place others between themselves and danger."

William G. Ewing in a letter to John H. James, of Urbana, gives full particulars of Tecumseh's interference on this occasion, which is here copied: "While this bloodthirsty carnage was raging, a thundering voice was heard in the rear in the Indian tongue, when turning around he saw Tecumseh coming with all the rapidity his horse could carry him. He sprang from his horse, caught one by the throat and the other by his shoulders and threw them to the ground. Drawing his tomahawk and scalping knife, he ran in between the Americans and the Indians, brandishing them with the fury of a mad man and daring any one of the hundreds around him to attempt to murder another American. They all appeared confounded and immediately desisted. His mind appeared rent with passion, and he exclaimed

almost with tears in his eyes, 'Oh what will become of my Indians.' He then demanded in an authoritative tone where Proctor was, but casting his eyes upon him at a small distance sternly inquired why he had not put a stop to the inhuman massacre. 'Sir,' said Proctor, 'your Indians cannot be commanded.' 'Be-gone', retorted Tecumseh with the greatest disdain, 'you are unfit to command; go and put on petticoats.' " ,

Following are given the cities and villages of Wood County with their population, according to the census of 1900:

West Millgrove	236
Millbury	280
Custar	293
Bairdstown	298
Milton Center	325
Tontogany	352
Hoytsville	431
Haskins	440
Grand Rapids	540
Portage	546
Jersey City	555
Rising Sun	660
Bloomdale	740
Freeport	815
Cygnar	896
Weston	953
Pemberville	1,081
Bradner	1,148
Perrysburg	1,760
North Baltimore	3,561
Bowling Green	5,067

In 1830 Wood County had a population of 1,102 and in 1900, 51,555.

CHAPTER V

ORGANIZATION AND EARLY HISTORY OF THE COUNTY

Origin of the County's Name—Early Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners—Indian Relics and Graves on Sugar Ridge—Enumeration of the County's Inhabitants—Early Marriages—Van Wert Emigration Society—A Country Spelling School—An Early Election—The Vote on Two Important Propositions—Bonds Issued by County for a Railroad—Van Wert County Infirmary—The Grange—Influences That Have Developed the County—Common Pleas Judges—Roster of County Officials—Population Statistics.

Van Wert County was formed April 1, 1820, out of Indian lands purchased from the Indians at the treaty of Wapakoneta in 1818 and was named for Isaac Van Wert.

ORIGIN OF THE COUNTY'S NAME.

Isaac Van Wert, John Paulding and David Williams, three farmer boys serving in the Continental Army, achieved prominence in their capture of Major Andre in the Revolutionary War. They were all three Dutch and could not speak English very well.

The circumstances of the capture were these: The three were seated among some bushes by the roadside playing cards, when they were aroused by the galloping of a horse. Going to the road they saw a man approaching on a large brown horse, which they afterwards observed was branded near the shoulders "U. S. A." The rider was a light, trim built man, about five feet seven inches in height, with a

bold military contenance and dark eyes, and was dressed in a round hat, blue surtout and crimson coat, with pantaloons and vest of nankeen. As he neared them, the three cocked their muskets and aimed at the rider, who immediately checked his horse, when the following conversation ensued:

Andre—"Gentlemen, I hope you are of our party?"

Paulding—"What party?"

Andre—"The lower party."

Paulding—"We are."

Andre—"I am a British officer, I have been up the country on particular business and do not wish to be detained a single moment."

Paulding—"We are Americans."

Andre—"God bless your soul. A man must do anything to get along. I am a Continental officer going down to Dobbs' Ferry to get information from below."

Andre then drew out and presented a pass from General Arnold in which was the as-

sumed name of John Anderson, but it was of no avail. Andre explained, "You will get yourselves into trouble." "We care not for that" was the reply. They then compelled him to dismount, searched him and as a last thing ordered him to take off his boots. At this he changed color. Williams drew off the left boot first and Paulding, seized it, exclaimed, "My God, here it is." In it three half sheets of written paper were found, enveloped by a half sheet marked "Contents West Point." Paulding again exclaimed, "My God, he is a spy." A single package was in the other boot. Andre was now allowed to dress. The young men now winked to each other to make further discoveries, and inquired of whom he had gotten the papers. "Of a man at Pine's Bridge, a stranger to me," replied Andre. He then offered for his liberty his horse and equipage, watch and 100 guineas. This bribe they declined unless he informed them where he obtained his manuscript. He refused to comply, but again offered his horse and equipage and 1,000 guineas. They were firm in their refusal and Andre increased his offer to 10,000 guineas and as many dry goods as they wished, which should be deposited in any place desired; that they might keep him and send anyone to New York with his order so that they might obtain them unmolested. To this they replied that it did not signify to make any offer, for he should not go. They delivered him to the nearest military station, New Castle, 12 miles distant.

William Paulding and Van Wert stood within the ring when Andre was hung. When an officer informed him that his time was nearly expired and inquired if he had anything to say, he answered, "Nothing for them but to witness to the world that he died like a brave man." The hangman, who was painted black, offered to put the noose on. "Take off your

black hands," said Andre. Then, putting on the noose himself, he took out his handkerchief, tied it on, drew it up, bowed with a smile to his acquaintances and died. Congress gave each of the captors of Andre a farm in West Chester County, New York, valued at \$2,500, a life pension of \$200 a year, together with an elegant silver medal, on one side of which was the inscription "Fidelity" and on the reverse the motto, "Amor patriae vincit"—(Love of country conquers.)

On the night previous to the execution, Major Beers of New Haven, was an officer of the guard, and in the morning stood beside the condemned man. He said that Andre was perfectly calm. The only sign of nervousness he exhibited was the rolling of a pebble to and fro under his shoe as he was standing waiting the order for his execution. As a last thing, although he was a stranger to Major Beers, but probably attracted by the kindness of the latter's countenance, he took from his coat pocket a pen and ink sketch and handed it to him, saying, in effect: "This is my portrait which I drew last night by looking in a mirror. I have no further use for it and I should like for you to take it." He accompanied this gift with a lock of his hair. Major Beers gave the portrait to Yale College. Major Beers was a man of singular beauty of character and lived to near 100 years. Though so deaf he could not hear a word that was uttered, he was every Sabbath in his seat at church, of which he was a deacon, his face upturned to the minister with an expression so calm, so peaceful that one could not but feel that every feature was under the celestial light. In the war he was ensign of the "Governor's Guards," the identical company which under command of Benedict Arnold marched to Boston at the outbreak of hostilities. In his old age the company, at the close of a parade day, would march to his resi-

dence on Hillhouse Avenue, draw up in line and give the aged veteran a salute. On one of these occasions he said, "I can thank you. Although I am too deaf to hear the report of your guns, I will say your powder smells good."

EARLY PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

While Van Wert County was formed in 1820, it was not organized until 1835, and the first meeting of the commissioners was held on the 24th day of April in Willshire, then temporarily the county seat. There were only two commissioners—Jesse Atkinson and Joshua Goodwin. They examined their own credentials and pronounced them correct. There being no auditor, they appointed Ansel Blossom special clerk for the session, it appearing that John Mark, who had been elected assessor, was not a resident of the county, they thereupon declared the office vacant, and appointed John Keith to fill the vacancy until the next election, and it was ordered that said Keith, on executing his bond in the sum of \$2,000, to be approved by any one of the commissioners in vacation and on being sworn, proceed to execute the duties enjoined upon him by law.

The next session of the commissioners was held at Willshire on the 5th day of June, 1837, both commissioners, Jesse Atkinson and Joshua Goodwin, being present. Daniel D. Cross, appearing, presented his certificate of election as auditor, with endorsement thereon that he had been sworn into office, forthwith executed his bond to the acceptance of the board, in the penalty of \$2,000, with William Case and Ansel Blossom, his securities, and entered upon the duties of his office.

William Case appeared and presented his

certificate of election and oath of office as treasurer, and executed his bond in the penalty of \$4,000, with Daniel D. Cross, Ansel Blossom, Peter Bolenbaugh and John Johnson, his securities. It was ordered that the auditor keep the treasurer's bond and that the treasurer keep the auditor's bond, and the said bonds were respectively delivered for safe keeping. On the petition of certain citizens of that part of the county known as Sugar Ridge, it was "Ordered that Town 2 South, Range 2 East be set off as a Civil Township, under the name of Pleasant, and that town 1 South of Range 1 and 2, and the North half of Town 2 South of Range 1 East be attached thereto for township purposes, and that the auditor by proper notices notify the electors in said Township to elect their Township officers at the house of James Maddox, on the 20th day of June, 1837, at the time and in the manner prescribed by law."

William Priddy appeared, produced his certificate of election as commissioner and took his seat. A petition for a new township to be set off and called "Ridge" being presented, it was "Ordered that Townships Number 1 and 2, in Ranges 3 and 4, be organized under the name of Ridge Township, and that when said territory shall again be divided that Town 2 in Range 3 shall hold the name." And it was further "Ordered that the Auditor notify the electors to meet for the election of township officers at the house of William Priddy on the fourth Saturday of June next."

"Ordered that Township number 3 South in Ranges 3 and 4 East be continued and known as Jennings Township."

"Ordered that Township 3 of Ranges Number 1 and 2 East and the south half of Township Number 2 South of Number 1 East be organized as Willshire Township."

The assessor presented a list of taxable

property for examination and after careful examination of the same the commissioners found no particular error in said list and allowed the assessor \$1.50 per day in taking the assessment, an order for the amount being issued upon the treasurer. The meeting then adjourned until the following morning at 8 A. M.

"June 6th, A. D. 1837. Met according to adjournment and proceeded to business. First to levy the per centum necessary to defray the expenses of the County for the present year.

"Ordered that one-fourth per cent be assessed on the dollar for State, Canal, School and County purposes for the present year, and that the Auditor, in making out his duplicates, divide the amounts so as to give the State, Canal and School their several claims and the remainder for county purposes.

"Ordered that whenever it becomes necessary to advertise any matter in the public paper and as there is none printed in the county, the same may be done by posting up written notices, one in each township within the County, by the Auditor thereof.

"There being something near seven hundred dollars in the treasury of the old County Mercer, belonging to Van Wert County for Road purposes, it is therefore ordered that the same be expended on the public roads in said County in the manner here provided: Fifty dollars on the road from St. Marys to Fort Wayne, in finishing a bridge erected across Duck Creek, in Willshire township. Three hundred dollars to be expended on the Bucyrus road to Fort Wayne, commencing on the East side of the County. One hundred and twenty-five dollars to be expended on the road from Shanesville to Defiance within said County. One hundred on a county road leading from Shanesville to a certain stone quarry in Jen-

nings township. Seventy-five dollars in opening a certain county road from Gilford to Jennings Prairie in the aforesaid County.

"Ordered that the Commissioners of said County serve as road commissioners to expend the several sums above described according to law in such case.

"Ordered that an order be issued to the Treasurer of Van Wert County, on the Treasurer of Mercer County, for the proper proportion of the money in said County Treasury belonging to Van Wert County for road purposes or their proportion of the three per cent. fund.

"Ordered that notice be given to the Commissioners of Mercer County that the Commissioners of Van Wert County are authorized by law to call on the said Commissioners for settlement."

As there was no other business to transact the meeting adjourned. The minutes were signed by William Priddy, Joshua Goodwin and Jesse Atkinson, County Commissioners.

Joseph Johnson, Henry Reichard and William H. Purdy were elected commissioners of Van Wert County at the annual election in November, 1837, and were severally sworn by Ansel Blossom, clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, on the 10th day of November, 1837, to discharge the duties of such office during their continuance in office faithfully and impartially and to support the constitution of the United States and the State of Ohio.

"St. Marys, Mercer County, Nov. 13th, 1837. Special session convened for the purpose of settling with the Commissioners of Mercer County agreeable to previous notice. Were present: William H. Purdy, Henry Reichard, Commissioners of Van Wert County. There being no Auditor present, the board appointed John F. Dobbs special clerk for the present session.

"Mercer County Commissioners present: Samuel Buckman, Picket Dout; Franklin Linzee, Auditor.

"The Board of Commissioners of the said Counties of Van Wert and Mercer, upon an examination of the book, exhibits and vouchers, do find that there is due to the County of Van Wert, and now in the hands of the Treasurer of Mercer County, the following sums: Three per cent. and road funds, \$841.35; School funds, \$25.84. Also an additional sum of three per cent. school funds in the hands of Samuel Buckman \$38.75, which sum is to be paid to Henry Reichard and William H. Purdy on the order of the Auditor of Mercer County. The Auditor of Mercer County is also directed by the Commissioners of said County to issue the following orders on the Treasurer of Mercer County, one being in full of three per cent. funds, \$825.85. One being in full of road funds due said County, \$15.50, and one being in full of school funds due said County, \$25.84.

"Also an order on Samuel Buckman in favor of the Commissioners of Van Wert County for the sum of \$38.75, being in full of three per cent funds in his hands due said County.

"And thereupon the Commissioners present agreed upon finding the foregoing to be an adjustment and settlement of accounts between Van Wert and Mercer Counties and that said Counties shall henceforth have no claims upon each other for three per cent. or other funds."

The foregoing was signed by Henry Reichard and William H. Purdy, Van Wert County Commissioners, and by Samuel Buckman and Picket Dout, Mercer County Commissioners. It was attested by Franklin Linzee, auditor of Mercer County.

"At a session of the Commissioners of Van Wert County convened at Willshire Decem-

ber 4th, 1837. Present: Henry Reichard, William H. Purdy, Joseph Johnson; John F. Dodds, Auditor.

"John F. Dobbs, upon being appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Daniel D. Cross, was duly sworn into office and forthwith executed his bond to the acceptance of the board in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, with James G. Gilliland and James M. Young, as sureties, and entered upon the duties of his office. Eli Compton appeared, presented his certificate of election and oath of office as County Assessor and executed his bond in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, with Ansel Blossom and Amos Crampton as sureties. Accepted by the board and deposited with the Auditor.

"James G. Gilliland appeared, presented his certificate of election and oath of office as County Treasurer for the term of two years from and after the First Monday in June and executed his bond in the penalty of four thousand dollars with Peter Mills, James M. Young and John F. Dodds as securities, which was accepted and deposited as the law directs.

"At the late session held at St. Marys, the commissioners found a balance of \$38.75 of three per cent. funds in the hands of Samuel Buckman, for which the Auditor of Mercer County issued an order in favor of the Commissioners of Van Wert County. Upon subsequent examination it was ascertained that there was an error of one dollar and that the actual sum was thirty-seven dollars and seventy-five cents (\$37.75), which was drawn upon said order by H. Reichard; after deducting six dollars, which he paid John F. Dodds for services as Clerk at St. Marys, and four dollars and fifty cents, which he paid William H. Purdy for services as commissioner, and six dollars, as a compensation allowed for his

own services, paid over to the Treasurer, Wm. Case, the balance, which is twenty-one dollars and twenty-five cents.

"Ordered that John F. Dodds receive an order on the Treasurer for three dollars, it being the sum expended by him for a book of Records.

"The Treasurer received of H. Reichards three different orders on the treasurer of Mercer County as follows: One for eight hundred and twenty-five dollars and eighty-five cents, three per cent. fund; one for fifteen dollars and fifty cents, road funds; and one for twenty-five dollars and eighty-four cents, school funds.

"The Board then adjourned *sine die*."

"Willshire, January 1st, 1838. Convened with William Case, Treasurer, Ansel Blossom, Clerk for Auditor, for the purpose of settling up all accounts for the year 1837, and upon examining the duplicate orders and redeemed vouchers for the three per cent., road and school funds, do find the aggregate amount of three per cent., road and school funds and County, School, State, and Canal tax now remaining in the Treasury to be \$969.25-1/2 (for items see Book B, page 16).

"JOHN F. DODDS,

"*Auditor of Van Wert County.*"

"Willshire, Van Wert County, March 5th, 1838. At a session of the Commissioners convened at Willshire, March 5th, 1838, John F. Dodds appeared and gave bond to the acceptance of the Board with William Priddy, Oliver Stacy and James Maddox as sureties, was qualified and entered upon the duties of his office as Auditor.

"March 6th, 1838. The Board convened at 9 o'clock, ordered that one hundred and forty lots be laid out on the land belonging to the County in order to fill out and make square in form the original surveyed and recorded plat

of the town of Van Wert, and that the same be known as the County's addition to the town of Van Wert. And be it further ordered that Martin B. Wilson be and is hereby appointed to survey and lay off the same, and that after he is duly qualified he shall after having selected and qualified chain carriers, markers, &c., proceed on the 15th or 16th of March to lay off the aforesaid number of lots in the same manner as the lots are laid out on the original recorded plat.

"Ordered that the lots in the town of Van Wert which belong to the County be offered at public sale on Tuesday the 22nd day of May, A. D., 1838.

Ordered that the Auditor get fifty advertisements and one hundred and fifty blank bonds printed at the expense of the County, also get a notice of the sale inserted twice in the *Dayton Journal*.

"Ordered that the commissioners meet on the 19th day of March, in Willshire, to sell out two contracts to the lowest and best bidder: One to extend the bridge across the St. Mary's River at Willshire 110 feet in length and supposed to be above high water mark; and the other to finish the bridge across Duck Creek."

These minutes, of March 5 and 6, 1838, were signed by William H. Purdy, Henry Reichards and Joseph Johnson, County Commissioners and attested by John F. Dodds, auditor.

On May 22, 1838, John F. Dodds was appointed commissioner to locate a State road to commence in Darke County at Greenville, and run from thence to Montezuma in Mercer County, from thence to Celina, from thence to Mercer, from thence to Van Wert, in Van Wert County, from thence to Paulding, the first located county seat in Paulding County, and thence to New Rochester.

"June 5th, A. D., 1838. Convened at 9

o'clock. The Board commenced a settlement with Wm. Case, Treasurer, and examining accounts, receipts, orders redeemed, vouchers, etc., and making lawful allowances for service, do find that there should remain in the treasury one thousand, one hundred and ninety-four dollars and seventy-three cents, County, School three per cent., and road funds, \$565.00 of which the said Case paid over to his successor in office. The balance remains unsettled and unpaid.

"The Assessor presented his list, which was examined and found correct and from said book it appears there are in Willshire Township: Cattle, 135 head, value \$1,080; horses 82, value \$2,280; merchants' capital, \$700.

"Pleasant Township: Cattle 49, value \$392; horses 12, value \$480.

"Ridge Township: Cattle 69, value \$552; horses 27, value \$1,080.

"Jennings Township: Cattle 130, value \$1,040; horses 53, value \$2,120.

"Total number of cattle 383, value \$3,064; horses 174, value \$6,960.

(It is to be remembered that Willshire township then included Liberty township, and the south half of Harrison. Pleasant township included Union, Tully, and the north half of Harrison. Ridge township included Hoaglin, Jackson and Washington. Jennings township beech tree in John Keith's lane, thence con-

"There is also 560 acres of land valued at \$2,160, which is to be placed upon the general list of taxable property.

"Ordered that the levy upon the general list of taxable property be five mills on the dollar for County purposes for the year 1838.

"Ordered that the Commissioners meet in the town of Van Wert on Wednesday, July 11th, 1838, for the purpose of selling out plans and contracts for gaol and bridges and offering the same at public sale."

On July 14th the board sold the contract to build a gaol to Jesse King, of Mercer County, who was to cause said work to be performed on or before the 1st day of November next for the sum of \$483. The board sold a bridge contract to Peter Wills, of Van Wert County, who was to cause a bridge to be erected across Jennings Creek according to contract on or before the 14th day of September next for the sum of \$199.

"September 15th, 1838. The Board met according to order issued when last convened. Present: William H. Purdy and Joseph Johnson, Commissioners and John F. Dodds, Auditor.

"Approved and accepted the bridge across Jennings Creek erected by Peter Wills.

"Approved and accepted the bridge across West Creek erected by James Maddox.

"Ordered that the Auditor, when issuing orders to the contractors for three per cent. funds, apportion the amount in the treasury according to the amount of such contract, reserving a small sum in the Treasury for contingencies."

"October 25th, 1838, Willshire, O. At a session of the Commissioners convened by previous order, Robert Gilliland and Stephen Gleason each presented his certificate of election and oath of office and took his seat in the Board.

"Received the Jail with a deduction of \$45. Allowed contractor \$4 for constructing a port-hole."

"Willshire, Dec. 2nd, 1838. Present: William H. Purdy, Stephen Gleason and Robert Gilliland, Commissioners, and John F. Dodds, Auditor.

"A petition being presented by certain citizens of Jennings Township, praying for an alteration in a certain road to commence at a beech tree in John Keith's lane, thence con-

tinuing to the north side of John Woolery's house, thence on the best ground near Harter's, thence across, etc.

"We hereby appoint Daniel M. Beard, Adam Gilliland, and Lyman Wells, viewers and John G. Morse, surveyor.

"Received and read reports and examined notes and plat of road running from Jennings Prairie to Van Wert.

"Ordered that James G. Gilliland, Treasurer, receive of William Case, ex-treasurer, the sum of eighty dollars Michigan paper."

"Convened at eight o'clock, Dec. 4th, 1838. Washington Mark came forward and acknowledged that nine eighty-acre lots of land owned by him were taxable and were not returned by the Auditor of State for assessment and the Commissioners assessed them at two dollars and fifty cent per acre.

"Ordered that the Treasurer collect three per cent. on the capital employed by Samuel M. Clark in merchandizing in Van Wert.

"Read road report and examined the notes and plat of a county road from Willshire to Van Wert. Approved and declared the same an established highway.

"Ordered that the Auditor be and he is hereby authorized to purchase a strip of land situated in the town of Van Wert and owned by Peter Aughenbaugh & Co., at any sum not exceeding thirty-five dollars. Adjourned *sine die*."

"Van Wert, March 25th, 1839. Commissioners convened. Present: Stephen Gleason and Robert Gilliland. There being no Auditor, the Commissioners appointed Edward R. Wells to serve as Auditor till the first day of March, 1840.

"Edward R. Wells, upon being appointed as Auditor, was duly sworn into office and forthwith executed his bond to the acceptance of the Commissioners in the penal sum of two

thousand dollars, with Elisha Wells, Wm. A. Wells, and Joseph Gleason, securities. The books belonging to the auditor's office being at Willshire, the Board adjourned till Wednesday the 27th inst."

"Wednesday, March 27th, 1839. The Commissioners convened according to adjournment. Present: Stephen Gleason, and Robert Gilliland, Commissioners, and E. R. Wells, Auditor.

"A petition for a new township was presented, to be set off and called Harrison.

"It is ordered that Township No. 2 S., R. 1 E. and No. 1 S., R. 1 E., be organized under the name of Harrison Township and when said territory shall again be divided Township No. 2 S., R. 1 E., shall hold the name.

"And it is ordered that the Auditor notify the electors of said township to meet on Thursday, Apr. 11th, at the house of Henry A. Lords for the purpose of electing their township officers.

"An account being presented by Ansel Blossom for furnishing the room, fuel and stationery for two terms of Court of Common Pleas, May and November, 1838, \$5.00; June and December for furnishing the room, fuel and stationery for two sessions of County Commissioners, \$2.50.

"Ordered that the County Auditor should issue an order on the Treasurer in his favor for said amount, \$7.50.

"Ordered that John G. Morse be authorized to procure the field notes of Van Wert County from the Surveyor General of Ohio.

"Eli Compton, Assessor, resigned and William Parent was appointed to fill the vacancy. He executed his bond with Gideon Mott and Adam Nimmous, as securities, in the penal sum of \$2,000.

"Whereas a notice was received by the Board from Charles Mount, dated March 26th,

1839, declaring inability to attend to the duties of Recorder and requesting them to receive the same as his resignation; whereupon the Board appointed Joseph Gleason to serve as Recorder in his stead until his successor is elected and qualified.

"Ordered that James G. Gilliland be and he hereby is authorized to purchase a strip of land situated in the town of Van Wert, and owned by Peter Aughenbaugh & Co., at any sum not exceeding fifty dollars.

"Ordered that the Auditor be required to order out an execution on the judgment rendered against William Case, ex-treasurer of Van Wert County, and securities on or before the 20th of April next. This order revoked until June session.

"Ordered that the Auditor notify John G. Morse, County Surveyor, to survey a number of lots in the Northwest Addition of Van Wert.

"Ordered that the lots in the town of Van Wert, which belong to the County, be offered at public sale on Wednesday, the 22nd day of May, 1839."

"June 7th, 1839. Board convened according to adjournment. Present: Purdy, Gleason and Gilliland and proceeded to business.

"After examining accounts, receipts, redeemed orders, etc., and making lawful allowances for his services, we do find that there remains in the Treasury the sum of \$2,772.93- $\frac{1}{2}$ County, School and three per cent. funds. We find by close examination of all the papers, orders redeemed, and after comparing the Auditor's and Treasurer's books, on settlement the amount above to be correct as near as we can arrange the books up to date.

"The above settlement was with James G. Gilliland, County Treasurer."

At a meeting held December 2, 1839, Tully township was struck off and an election ordered

to be held at the house of J. G. Morse on the 25th inst.

At a meeting held March 2, 1840, Liberty and Washington townships were struck off and elections ordered to be held on the first Monday of April, 1840; the electors of Liberty to meet at the house of Peter Putman and those of Washington to meet for election and organization purposes at the schoolhouse.

RELICS AND INDIAN GRAVES ON SUGAR RIDGE. BY H. G. LEHMANN.

The early settlers of Van Wert County found numerous bands of Indians, whose camping grounds were upon the many ridges or highlands. One of these was Sugar Ridge, better known as the Ridge road, which enters the county at what was then known as "Section Ten," now known as Delphos, and traverses the county in a northwesterly direction to the Indiana State line.

The years 1835 and 1836 found many settlements of whites on these same ridges or highlands and the red men were soon crowded off from their favorite camping places and, turning their faces toward the setting sun, left Van Wert County never more to return.

One Oliver Stacy brought his family to this new country and settled on the Ridge road four and a half miles west of Delphos, soon opening up and improving a large farm. His orchards for many years supplied the early settlers with choice apples, peaches of finest flavor, Bartlett pears and Siberian crab-apples, while plums were found wild in abundance.

When planting their crops, the settlers found many Indian relics, such as flint arrow-heads, stone hammers, stone tomahawks, stone pestles for pounding and grinding corn and occasionally an Indian grave or burial place.

One such grave was found by Mr. Stacy



VAN WERT, IN 1873



HERD OF DEER ON THE ESTATE OF GEORGE H. MARSH



FAIR GROUNDS, VAN WERT



VAN WERT COUNTY INFIRMARY, RIDGE TOWNSHIP

near his east line, where the Ridge road entered his land. This burial place must have been that of a great chief, as the articles found therein were in greater variety and value than any previously found. The find consisted of a fine steel tomahawk with poll formed as the bowl of a pipe so that it could be filled with tobacco and smoked, the handle of the tomahawk serving as the pipe stem; a small copper kettle which contained a few English silver coins (denominations now forgotten) and a lot of silver ornaments and a few strands of beads; a gun barrel of English make, the stock of which had rotted away; and a lot of flint arrowheads. The skull, leg and arm bones were also taken out of this Indian grave.

Another burial place is known on the William Martin farm, two miles west of the Stacy farm, which grave contains the bodies of two Indians who loved the same Indian maiden and became mortal enemies. They fought a duel with knives, first having their left wrists securely bound together. They fought to the death and were both buried where they fell. This Indian grave was never opened; and as long as the farm was owned by William Martin this plot of ground was not allowed to be farmed. A large orchard of apple trees, planted by the Indians, some say by "Johnny Appleseed," once stood upon the ridge where this duel was fought. A few trees yet remain silent witnesses of the tragedy occurring in the earlier history of Van Wert County.

ENUMERATION OF THE COUNTY'S INHABITANTS.

The following is an enumeration made by William Parent, assessor, in 1839, of the white male inhabitants of the townships of Willshire, Pleasant, Jennings, Harrison and Ridge, which then comprised Van Wert County:

WILLSHIRE TOWNSHIP.

John Boyer	Ajalon Wright
Joseph Chevart	Thompson Roebuck
John Leslie	Abraham Pontius
Thomas Clayton	Joseph Andrew
Alexander Moore	Nathaniel Heller
John Bunner	Thomas More
Frederick Hartzog	Frederick Shaler
Aaron Moore	Joshua Watkins
James Major	David Stuller
David Major, Jr.	Andrew Blossom
William Case	David Daniels
William Purdy	David Beam
George Schumm	John Darnell
Solomon Hartzog	Michael Thatcher
John Johnson	Peter Frysinger
Noah Frysinger	Thomas Kear
Noah Long	Jacob Thatcher
George Hartzog	Jeremiah Agler
John Boyer	John Slater
John Agler	George Clouse
John Shoeffler	Joshua Jewett
John Templeton	Joseph Henry
Edward Blossom	John Major
Jacob Pontius	Anthony McQueen
William Andrew	Lewis Newly
Joseph Heller	Charles Smith
Minton More	Jacob Shaler
John Major	Jacob Harper
Peter Bornbaugh	Joseph Bolenbaugh
George Stuller	John Thatcher
David Major	William Cunningham
Robert Daniels	Henry Richard
William Major	Jacob Schumm
Charles Mount	Henry Alspaugh
Mitchael Shule	Jacob Thatcher
Jacob Bolenbaugh	John Frysinger
Frederick Raper	Richard Pring
William Kear	David Lake
Jacob Joshua	David Wright
George W. Purdy	Frederick Fry
John Linderhouse	Jacob Dale
Peter Putman	Daniel Riley
James Hemphill	Jonathan Jewett

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP.

Lyman Wells	Jacob Speeler
Asa Cook	S. M. Clark
Edward R. Wells	John Wagner
George Baure	William Wells
John Myers	Stephen Gleason

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP. (Continued.)

Hercules Cane	Thomas McCane
Daniel Hipshire	Daniel Cook
William Clayton	Gideon Mott
Joshua Cook	P. Jacob Hines
William Burnett	James Q. Graves
James Maddox	George McManime
Thomas Thorn	Amos Hipshire
Benjamin Thorn	William Davis
David Thorn	Solomon Farnam
Elisha Wells	William Miller
Joseph Gleason	William Miller, Jr.
Levi Sawyer	S. R. Mott
Samuel Maddox	William McManime

JENNINGS TOWNSHIP.

Levi Roebuck	A. Culver
Evan B. Jones	John Keith
Joseph Keith	William Harter
John Powers	Nathaniel Griffin
Irwin Duncan	Joshua Reed
Robert Thomas	Joshua Arnold
William Moore	Silas Martin
John Smith	Jesse Atkinson
Silas Mills	Cyrus Elliott
James Ruel	Amos Dancher
John Fortner	John Ross
John Heath	Lewis Culver
James Wool	Edward Williams
Jacob Ross	George Harter
Sylvester Wool	Claudius Griffin
Samuel Moore	Daniel Reed
John Mortimer	Benjamin Griffith
Johnzey Keith	John Ressler
John Harter	F. Jackson
Elisha Rigdon	F. Elliott
James Malenter	Joseph Duncan
William Morman	John McCohen
Washington Doak	Joshua Goodwin
William Carter	Oliver Ingram
John Bevington	Peter Harter
Joseph Moore	William Reed
Leonard Verner	David Walters

HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

Robert Manley	Peter Hurt
Allen Walters	Fred Pile
John Manley	Jacob Johns
Isaiah Foster	Joseph Osborn
Abel Johnson	John Lords

HARRISON TOWNSHIP (Continued.)

Joseph Johnson	J. G. Morse
Davis Johnson	James Workman
Jesse Foster	Edward ones
William Johns	Norman Preston
Thomas Hudspeth	Amasa Preston
Henry Lords	

RIDGE TOWNSHIP.

William Pollock	John Ireland, Jr.
James G. Gilliland	James Cavett
Peter Wills	Abm. Hines
Adam Gilliland	William Nuttle
John Gilliland	Samuel Hill
Thomas Gilliland	John Mark
Robert Gilliland	Henry Harrick
Hugh Gilliland	Thomas Pollock
James Asdale	James Cavett
Daniel Beard	T. Hines
Eli Stackey	William Priddy
Joseph Cavett	Moses Orchard
Cornelius Burright	David McCoy
Oliver Stacy	James M. Young
John Hill	A. Burright
William Hill	David King
John Ireland	William Parent

EARLY MARRIAGES.

The marriage of Philip Frountner and Miss Bolenbaugh, sister of the early pioneer, Peter Bolenbaugh, which took place in the fall of 1822, is said to have been the first marriage in Van Wert County. The ceremony was performed by Ansel Blossom, who had been elected justice of the peace a short time before.

The following list of early marriages does not include any performed prior to December, 1839.

December 6, 1839—Josiah Clark and Alice Kittle, by William Morman, J. P.

January 17, 1840—Peter Hurt and Mary German, by Joseph Gleason, J. P.

March 20, 1840—George Gay and Sarah Gilliland, by Joseph Gleason, J. P.

May 5, 1840—John Hurry and Elizabeth Bowen, by Thomas Clayton, J. P.

May 7, 1840—David Richie and Laura Wells, by Davis Johnson, J. P.

May 17, 1840—Henry Foster and Mary Maddox, by Joseph Gleason, J. P.

June 14, 1840—John Brenner and Elizabeth Hartzog, by Jacob Harper, J. P.

June 30, 1840—Joseph Duncan and Sarah Hipshire, by Joseph Gleason, J. P.

July 7, 1840—Cyrus Bowen and Mary McQueen, by Davis Johnson, J. P.

August 16, 1840—Andrew Roehm and Catherine Beintz, by William Henry, J. P.

August 22, 1840—Francis M. Statfield and Polly Harter, by William Reed, J. P.

November 26, 1840—Isaac Britson and Elizabeth Pring, by Thomas Clayton, J. P.

December 10, 1840—Nelson Goodrich and Polly Duncan, by Thomas Thorn, J. P.

December 26, 1840—Josiah Clink and Alice Keith, by William Morman, J. P.

January 21, 1841—William R. Burtch and Hetty Sands, by Thomas Hickernell.

March 9, 1841—Azariah Wagoner and Susan Baker, by William Henry, J. P.

March 25, 1841—William Todd and Mary Hine, by Thomas W. Bowdle, J. P.

June 10, 1841—John Hire and Mary Pollock, by Thomas W. Bowdle, J. P.

June 20, 1841—John Lilly and Elizabeth Wright, by William H. Purdy, J. P.

June 22, 1841—John Keith and Priscilla Arnold, by William Reed, J. P.

July 31, 1841—Jared Gates and Fanny Hemphill, by E. M. Cummins, J. P.

September 16, 1841—Henry Showalter and Mary Hertz, by William Henry, J. P.

October 14, 1841, James T. Daily and Mary Johnson, by David Johnson, J. P.

October 23, 1841—George Gay and Margaret Clapper, by Thomas Gilliland, J. P.

October 26, 1841—Hugh Gilliland and Nancy J. King, by Joseph Gleason, J. P.

December 14, 1841—James Cremean and Sarah Summersett, by Thomas W. Bowdle, J. P.

December 22, 1841—Joshua Shaffer and Catherine Wagerman, by J. B. Groscost, J. P.

December 25, 1841—Peter Bolenbaugh and Catherine Middleton, by William H. Purdy, J. P.

December 29, 1841—John Myers and Elizabeth Gilliland, by Thomas Gilliland, J. P.

February 1, 1842—James Walters and Amanda Harter, by William Reed, J. P.

March 3, 1842—John DeCamp and Lydia Williams, by Thomas Bowdle, J. P.

March 6, 1842—Philip C. German and Annie E. German, by David Johnson, J. P.

April 11, 1842—John Cavett and Abby C. Williams, by Thomas W. Bowdle, J. P.

April 21, 1842—T. W. King and Jane E. Gilliland, by Joseph Gleason, J. P.

June 10, 1842—John R. Shurrer and Elizabeth Burry, by Thomas Clayton, J. P.

June 25, 1842—James Bell and Mary F. Johnson, by Thomas Clayton, J. P.

August 10, 1842—Henry Taylor and Amy Kever, by William Henry, J. P.

August 15, 1842—Silas Martin and Mrs. Susan Irvin, by Rev. Wesley Brock.

September 15, 1842—William Lewis and Sarah Myers, by Joseph Gleason, J. P.

September 25, 1842—James Kever and Susan Hudspeth.

September 27, 1842—Daniel McManus and Mary Ann Taylor, by Jesse B. Groscost, J. P.

October 17, 1842—John F. Woodruff and Nancy Bronson, by William Henry, J. P.

October 25, 1842—Joshua Miller and Lydia Mix, by Davis Johnson, J. P.

December 26, 1842—James Reed and Rachel Harter, by Lewis Culin, J. P.

May 5, 1843—William Stripe and Lydia Royce.

December 12, 1844—Frederick Mewhirter and Elizabeth Scott.

May 13, 1845—Richard C. Spears and Louisa Spear.

November 2, 1845—William L. Robinson and Emily Stacy.

March 19, 1846—B. C. Smith and Lodemia Royce.

August 21, 1846—Thomas S. McKim and Calinda Major.

January 8, 1849—Obadiah O. Rose and Nancy Slater.

August 28, 1849—Henry Weible and Mary Mills.

November 9, 1849—John W. Lenox and Susan A. Short.

October 20, 1850—James Harvey and Wilhelmina Reece.

VAN WERT EMIGRATION SOCIETY.

In 1843-1844 there was a great movement to the West. It was not uncommon to see a dozen to 20 teams in a string with the old Virginia schooners. The wagon bed of one of these schooners would now cost more to make than the entire wagon. They were all going to Indiana. The citizens of Van Wert County concluded that if they could prevail upon the emigrants to stop in this county it would be a good move, so they had a meeting and organized a society. The duties of the members were to endeavor to get into conversation with these "Movers" and explain to them the advantages of settling here. Many were the arguments used, but mostly without effect.

One in particular is well remembered. General Coe, who had entered land in Honglin township and was sick of his bargain and was then a boarder at Glenson's hotel, thought of a

good plan to work up a trade by which he could unload. He joined the society and he came one of the most active workers. One day he tackled a "Mover" and after picturing the county as the coming garden spot of the country and enlarging upon the value of the grand timber, etc., he said, "I have a quarter section four miles north of town that I will sell you at government price." The man said, "Which direction from here did you say your land was?" Coe replied, "North." "Isn't it rather wet?" "Yes," he replied, "but by — there is plenty of timber to bridge it." The crowd smiled as the "Mover" drove off.

In the fall of 1844 some men were working near the road on the Gilliland farm east of Van Wert, and they counted 83 wagons pass in one day.

In 1847 the stream of those returning was scarcely less. The chills had attacked whole families and after two years of battle they had given up in despair.

There were dozens in this county, who, if they could have sold their land for enough to take them back to their former homes, would have been glad to make the exchange. But they were compelled to remain and their descendants today are among the county's wealthiest farmers.

A COUNTRY SPELLING SCHOOL.

Early in the '40's some of the school teachers decided to have a spelling school of all the schools in the county, and an invitation was sent out accordingly. The scholars came in all kinds of conveyances.

The editor well recollects that his school came to town in a big farm wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen, driven by J. G. Gilliland and a Mr. Dodge. The spelling school was held at the Court House and E. R. Wells pro-

nounced the words. After a spirited contest, the Ridge School was pronounced the victor, with Harriet Gilliland (Mrs. J. J. McMillen) the last on the floor. She was not more than 10 years of age but could spell Webster's "Elementary Speller" through and not miss half a dozen words. Scholars then learned to spell.

AN EARLY ELECTION.

The following is an abstract of the votes cast in Van Wert County at an election held in October, 1840:

TOWNSHIPS	Governor	Member of Congress	State Representatives				County Commissioners
	William M. Sherman Thomas Corwin	William Sawyer Patrick G. Goode	Loren Kennedy Daniel O. Morton	George B. Way John F. Hinkle	Daniel Reed David W. McCoy		
Harrison....	22 11	22 11	22 22	11 11	22 11		
Jennings....	13 5	13 5	13 13	5 5	13 3		
Liberty.....	9 7	9 5	9 9	5 5	13		
Pleasant....	29 17	29 17	29 29	17 17	21 21		
Ridge.....	17 23	16 23	16 17	23 23	10 30		
Tully.....	25 1	24 1	24 24	1 1	23 1		
Washington..	9 8	9 8	9 9	8 8	5 10		
Willshire....	50 30	50 30	50 50	30 30	50 30		
York.....	17 5	17 5	17 17	5 5	21 1		
	191 107	189 105	189 190	105 105	165 120		

Certified as correct by Robert Gilliland, Clerk,
Joseph Gleason, J. P.
Thomas Gilliland, J. P.

THE VOTE ON TWO IMPORTANT PROPOSITIONS.

On June 17, 1851, an election was held to determine the will of the citizens whether the sale of intoxicating liquors should be licensed. The following is the vote:

TOWNSHIPS.	YES.	NO.
Harrison	51	6
Hoaglin	11	6
Jennings	14	5
Liberty	50	8
Pleasant	77	32
Ridge	23	7
Tully	28	
Union	6	4
Washington	73	48
Willshire	90	9
York	17	5
Total	440	130

Certified as corrected by E. R. Wells, Clerk,
Thomas Gilliland, J. P.,
O. W. Rose, J. P.

On the same date, the electors voted on the adoption of the new State constitution, with these results:

TOWNSHIPS.	YES.	NO.
Harrison	25	36
Hoaglin	17	2
Jennings	8	18
Liberty	9	50
Pleasant	69	41
Ridge	12	27
Tully	28	
Union	4	6
Washington	63	68
Willshire	16	95
York	5	23
Total	256	368

Certified as correct by E. R. Wells, Clerk,
Thomas Gilliland, J. P.
O. W. Rose, J. P.

BONDS ISSUED BY COUNTY FOR A RAILROAD.

The following account gives Van Wert County's experience in the line of issuing bonds in behalf of a railroad, which resulted in Van Wert becoming a station on what is now the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway, a part of the great Pennsylvania system.

The Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad had been constructed to Crestline and the people

of Fort Wayne were clamoring to have the road extended to their city. When such men as Judge Hanna, Jesse L. Williams and others scarcely less enterprising took hold of the enterprise, it was sure to go. As soon as the western terminus was located, then the route of the railroad became a matter of the greatest importance to those located at intermediate points. The line would have to deflect to the south to strike Van Wert. Robert Gilliland, Reuben Frisbie and E. R. Wells took an active part at this time, making several trips on horseback to Fort Wayne and Crestline in order to secure the location of the road through Van Wert. They finally were given the promise that if the citizens along the line would issue bonds to the amount of \$50,000, Van Wert would be made a point on the road.

This issue of bonds was authorized by a vote of the people. First, a vote was taken on the proposition to issue bonds on the townships through which the road would run—Washington, Ridge, Pleasant, Union and Tully. While there was opposition to voting the bonds, yet the proposition carried by a good majority. It was then found that bonds of the county could be issued, provided the proposition could be carried at the polls. This could not have been done when the first vote was taken; when the second vote was taken, however, the townships that had already voted now voted unanimously for the proposition, so as to share the burden with their neighbors, and thus overcame the opposition in the outside townships. Thus the bonds of the county were issued, and \$50,000 worth of stock taken in the Ohio & Indiana Railroad Company.

This proved to be a good investment as the railroad paid in taxes to the county a much larger amount every year than the interest on the county's bonds, and the stock held by the county was sold at par before the county bonds

became due—they matured in 50 years. So it proved in the end to be a case of the county loaning its credit to the railroad company and receiving in lieu thereof several times as much in tax as the county paid in interest and then exchanging the railroad stock for the county's bonds even.

VAN WERT COUNTY INFIRMARY.

In 1864 the County Commissioners—James Montgomery, Thomas Cully, and J. C. Curtis—purchased 320 acres of land in Ridge township, the tract being the east half of section 11, and gave T. L. Lebew the contract to burn 200,000 brick. To I. M. Silvers, of Fort Wayne, and H. D. Schreffler, of Van Wert, they awarded the contract to erect a building 46 by 58 feet, two stories high, with 18 rooms, all to be completed ready for occupancy by April, 1867, for the sum of \$7,300.

In 1867 Dr. C. B. Stemen was appointed superintendent and entered upon his duties March 11, 1867. Since then, additional buildings have been erected, water and heating plants installed and the land cleared and drained. It is now a model farm of deep, rich soil, all under good state of cultivation. It has been well and economically managed from the beginning.

THE GRANGE.

In answer to a letter from the author asking for the date of organization of the Grange in Van Wert County, and what it has accomplished, A. A. Giffin, one of the leading farmers in the county, made the following reply:

"The first Grange was organized in Van Wert County in the Autumn of 1873. Van Wert Grange No. 82, I think was the first.

Hoaglin Grange, No. 400, was organized about June 14, 1874, or near that date. You ask what it has accomplished; I suppose you mean in Van Wert County. If you will recall my brief remarks at the annual banquet of the Business Men's League on the subject, "Van Wert and the Country"—I then pictured briefly the way the country looked upon the town and its business profession before the Grange day; and, through the educational force of the Grange organization, how the country looked at the town and its business and professions after the Grange day. It has been the greatest educator and stimulator to the grown-up farmer of any agency that I know.

"Its inspiring motto has been, 'Faith, Hope and Fidelity.'" The fruits from this continuous teaching has been a better manhood and womanhood on the farms, and a healthy rivalry to have better and prettier farms and farm homes and the end is not yet. Some day in the near future I hope to see some of the finest and best Christian homes within our county in the rural districts, with all the modern conveniences and up-to-date appliances being made, to lessen the burdens of the farmers' wives and daughters.

"In the matter of public road improvement in the past in our county—when the advance step was taken—upon investigation you will find the leading spirits were Grangers (take the case of A. R. Merrick on the Defiance road for instance); and *vice versa*, whenever opposition to these public improvements was struck, there you will look in vain for the Grange organization. The same is true on legislation matters. The organization was nearly right on legislation asked for. Notably in the past in Ohio. Better pure food laws with a commissioner to enforce them; and equal and just tax laws. They are now for State laws prohibiting the use of free passes on railroads by

State and county officials; and better banking laws that will protect all the people from dishonest officials. I hope to live to see the day these and other reforms are brought about."

All that Mr. Giffin has said for the Grange is true and much more might be said. The refining influence that it has exerted on the young of both sexes is beyond measure. The social side is of equal value with the material advancement. It was a schooling that the young boys and girls on the farm could get in no other way. The young man or woman 40 years ago, had they been called upon to express an opinion on any given subject, would likely have stammered out an excuse and sat down. That is not the case now. It has taught them not only to think but to express their thoughts in well chosen words.

While the primary object of the Grange was to study the science of farming and horticulture, yet it has taken a much wider range and not only prepared the boys for better farmers, and the girls for better home makers, but it has prepared them to take with credit their places in any walk in life. It has taught them kindness. Teach the boys and girls that it pays to be kind to the dumb brutes on the farm and they will cultivate a kindly disposition to all around them. How soon the cultivation of kindness changes not only the heart of the individual but the very countenance.

It is unfortunate that the interest in the Grange has been allowed to lag. While it still has an influence, yet such influence cannot be compared with what it would be if there were a Grange in every township. Was it because the leaders grew old and lost interest? If so, elect the officers from the younger generation. It ought not to be allowed to retrograde. The roads are such that it is not the task to drive to the Grange that it was a few years ago; then the drives to the place of meeting were

made in farm wagons over mud roads, while now they can be made in buggies and carriages over good, improved roads.

The Grange has not completed its work. Neither will the work be as well done if left to one or two organizations in a county, as it would if the whole county were waked up.

INFLUENCES THAT HAVE DEVELOPED THE COUNTY.

What influences have contributed to make Van Wert County one of the first counties in the State in all that makes a community great?

First and foremost are her common schools. The first settlers had scarcely built their cabins until they began to look up a location for a schoolhouse. We often hear men say they look back with pride to the county's round-log schoolhouses. They were the foundation on which the little red schoolhouse was built, as that will be the foundation on which the central school will be built in each township in the future.

Then the Grange came in due time with its educational influence, and brought the farmers closer together in the exchange of methods of farming and stock-raising. And not only that but it started a generous rivalry as to who should push his work to the best advantage and keep his fences, out-buildings and home in the neatest condition.

And the Farmers' Institute has perhaps contributed as much as anything to the improvement of the crops and stock, and the attendance at the institutes shows the interest that is taken. When our large Auditorium that will seat between 700 and 800 will not hold the people, it shows the interest that is taken in these meetings. The papers and lectures given by home talent compare favorably with what are given by the best State speakers.

Then there is another force that is at work quietly—"Example." In driving through the country with one or our up-to-date farmers, the editor remarked upon the great improvement in the appearance of the farms, crops and farm buildings. He said that two or three energetic men in a neighborhood will influence the whole neighborhood.

Then the literature that the farmers are taking has its influence.

But we must not ignore the influence of the church. When the morals of the community are improved, the whole man is improved. He becomes a better neighbor, and a better farmer or mechanic.

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES.

The first term of the Court of Common Pleas for Van Wert County was held in Willshire, May 11, 1838. William L. Helfenstein officiated as president judge under his commission from Governor Vance, bearing date of February 8, 1838. Joshua Watkins, Oliver Stacy and Benjamin Griffin acted as associate judges under their commissions from Governor Vance, bearing date of February 8, 1838, appointing them for a term of seven years.

The following persons composed the grand jury: Daniel D. Cross, James Major, Peter Frysinger, Jacob M. Harter, Robert Gilliland, Washington Mark, Peter Bolenbaugh, John Keith, David King, John F. Dodds, Ezra F. Parent, Eli Compton, John Pool, Thomas C. Miller and Henry Myers. The court appointed Daniel D. Cross, foreman.

George B. Holt, of Dayton, was appointed prosecuting attorney for the term and was immediately sworn into office. In a suit of John Keith against Elizabeth K. Goodwin and others, Edwin M. Phelps appeared as attorney. Also a Mr. Rood appeared as attorney

in a case of Henry Reichard against Rachel McManus and others. At this term Daniel Cook was indicted for selling liquor without a license, plead guilty and was fine \$5 and costs. Samuel Maddox, indicted for assault and battery, plead guilty and was fined \$5 and costs.

The following were petit jurors: Joseph Johnson, Charles Mount, Asabel Burright, Stephen Gleason, Daniel Cook, Joseph Gleason, Daniel Stetler, William Maus, Levi Sawyer and James M. Young. There being no jury trials, the jury was dismissed.

George B. Holt was allowed \$25 for his services as prosecutor. John F. Dodds, Ansel Blossom and Washington Mark were appointed school examiners. John G. Morse was appointed county surveyor instead of Martin B. Wilson, removed.

The following served as president judges of the Court of Common Pleas: William L. Helfenstein, 1838-40; Emory D. Potter, 1840-44; Myron H. Tilden, 1844-45; Patrick G. Goode, 1845-49; and George B. Way, who served from 1849 until the new constitution went into effect, when the office of president judge was abolished.

The following served as associate judges: Joshua Watkins, Benjamin Griffin and Oliver Stacy, 1837; Henry Reichard, 1839; John Hill and Joseph Gleason, 1840; Charles Mount, 1841; P. Jacob Hines, 1843; John Tumbleson and John W. Conn, 1844; and Jacob M. Harper, 1845.

With the adoption of the new constitution the office of associate judge was done away with and that of judge of the Court of Common Pleas instituted instead. John M. Palmer was the first judge upon the reorganization in 1851. He was succeeded in 1856 by Alexander S. Latty, who served until 1858.

In 1858 the district was again reorganized, and was composed of Allen, Auglaize, Mercer,

Van Wert and Putnam counties. Benjamin F. Metcalf was judge from November, 1858, until his death in March, 1865, when O. W. Rose, of Lima, took his place until November, 1865. James Mackenzie served as judge from November, 1865, to February, 1879. Edwin M. Phelps was elected judge in 1869, under an act creating an additional judge for the sub-division.

In 1879 the district was again reorganized, Shelby County being added and Putnam County dropped, and so it remains to-day. Charles M. Hughes served as judge in this sub-division, one year, being succeeded by James H. Day in 1880. Upon Judge Day's resignation in 1892 to take a position on the district bench to which he had been elected, Hiram C. Glenn was appointed to fill the vacancy. W. T. Mooney followed Judge Glenn, being elected in 1892. In 1901 Judge Mooney was elected to the district bench. S. A. Armstrong took Judge Mooney's place on the common pleas bench and served until E. S. Mathias took up the duties of the office, to which he had been elected in 1904. Judges William D. Davis and Hugh T. Mathers also held court in this sub-division in times of vacancy, but neither was regularly assigned.

ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICIALS.

Probate Judges.—(Under the State constitution of 1802, the associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas in each county had jurisdiction in matters of probate.) The judges of probate from the organization of the county were the associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas, whose names appear in the list of common pleas judges. (Upon the adoption of the State constitution of 1851, a Probate Court was established in each county). The probate court judges since have

leen: W. H. Ramsey, 1852; Israel D. Clark, 1855; A. Bray, 1858; A. McGavren, 1861; A. W. Baker, 1873; C. P. Edson, 1878; W. H. Mesure, 1879; A. T. Daily, 1881; B. J. Brotherton, 1887; H. P. Homes, 1893; W. W. Wilson, 1896; A. L. Sweet, 1899 —.

Auditors.—Daniel D. Cross, 1837; John F. Dodds, 1837; E. R. Wells, 1839; John W. Conn, 1845; P. Jacob Hines, 1848; John Shaw, 1850; James Webster, 1854; Henry Robinson, 1855; G. L. Higgins, 1857; James Webster, 1860; George Strother, 1863; William T. Exline, 1865; Grimes McConahay, 1867; Julius A. Gleason, 1872; George A. Detmer, 1874; William T. Exline, 1878; W. W. Terry, 1884; L. A. Harvey, 1887; J. H. Clime, 1893; T. M. Berry, 1896; W. H. Troup, 1902 —.

Treasurers.—William Case, 1837; James G. Gilliland, 1839; James Burson, 1845; W. H. Ramsey, 1846; Robert Gilliland, 1848; Stephen Gleason, 1852; A. T. Priddy, 1855; Davis Johnson, 1857; Hugh Gilliland, 1863; J. W. Penn, 1865; Charles German, 1867; John Seaman, 1869; P. F. Feigert, 1873 (removed and A. Conant appointed to fill the vacancy); A. Conant, 1876; James Montgomery, 1876; Abraham Balyeat, 1880 (died before taking office and Charles C. Schenck appointed in 1881, to fill the vacancy); Thomas Pollock, 1881; W. H. Corbett, 1883; J. F. Sidle, 1887; Peter Hertz, 1891; Franklin Carlo, 1893; J. E. Pritchard, 1897; A. B. Penny, 1901; Frank A. Poling, 1905 —.

Sheriffs.—William Major, 1838; Thomas R. Kear, 1839; S. M. Clark, 1841; Thomas R. Kear, 1843; Samuel Engleright, 1847; Jacob C. Parkinson, 1849; William Moneysmith, 1853; William S. Ainsworth, 1855; Samuel Neel, 1857; Charles P. Richie, 1859; Lewis Evers, 1863; Joseph R. Updegrove, 1865; Charles P. Richie, 1867; A. B. Gleason,

1869; Fred Billman, 1873; Jesse R. Stith, 1877; Hal. D. Heistand, 1879; Charles Gordan, 1883; I. P. Tudor, 1885; Peter Shoemaker, 1889; Eugene R. Conn, 1893; John Webster, 1897; William Bickford, 1901; Fred J. Hott, 1905 —.

Recorders.—Charles Mount, 1838; Joseph Gleason, 1839; O. W. Rose, 1848; W. A. Clark, 1854; S. Latimore, 1857; H. Campbell, 1861; Simon P. Brown, 1862 (died in February, 1863, and W. H. Himmelreich appointed to fill the vacancy); W. H. Deniston, 1863; Perry C. Conn, 1872; W. P. Wolcott, 1879; Jesse Beard, 1888; W. T. Mitchner, 1894; Eli Downing, 1897; G. J. Smith, 1903 —.

Clerks of the Court.—Ansel Blossom, 1837; Robert Gilliland, 1840; E. R. Wells, 1847; John W. Conn, 1852; W. McDonald, 1855; William Anderson, 1857; George Strother, 1859; William Moneysmith, 1863; James E. Morrison, 1866; George W. Day, 1872; U. H. Hester, 1880; C. T. Manship, 1886; John Van Liew, 1889; W. C. Lawrence, 1895; J. W. Whitman, 1898; W. C. Lawrence, 1901 —.

Surveyors.—Marius B. Wilson, 1838; John G. Morse, 1839; Cyrenus Elliott, 1841; Davis Johnson, 1843; John Shaw, 1846; Davis Johnson, 1849; R. C. Spears, 1853; John Holland, 1856; William Giffin, 1861; John A. Eskfield, 1867; J. W. Rimer, 1870; W. B. Jones, 1876; Marion P. McCoy, 1885; L. R. Beaty, 1891; J. L. Lowery, 1894; I. H. Malick, 1897; I. N. Giffin, 1900 —.

Prosecuting Attorneys.—T. H. Gillett, 1839; W. H. Newman, 1840; J. M. Barr, 1842; S. E. Bowman, 1843; R. C. Spears, 1846; C. P. Edson, 1847; R. C. Spears, 1848; C. P. Edson, 1850; Caleb Roberts, 1857; J. W. Steel, 1859; Perin DePuy, 1863; Israel D. Clark, 1864; James L. Prise, 1867; Ira P. Shisler, 1874; W. H. Cunningham, 1878; A.

J. Porter, 1880; A. L. Sweet, 1881; J. Y. Todd, 1887; C. V. Hoke, 1890; Thomas J. Trippy, 1893; W. S. Johnson, 1899; H. L. Conn, 1902—.

Coroners.—John Frysinger, 1838; W. H. Newman, 1839; William Parent, 1843; Thomas Thorn, 1845; Samuel Engleright, 1848; Hiram Campbell, 1849; P. Jacob Hines, 1855; W. P. Bryan, 1856; William Fronfield, 1858; William Parent, 1860; Isaac Casteel, 1863; B. A. Welch, 1865; Dr. H. W. Blachley, 1869; Dr. A. N. Krout, 1871; Dr. C. A. Melsheimer, 1873; O. J. Comer, 1876; Samuel Engleright, 1877; William Fronfield, 1881; E. L. Wilkinson, 1884; George W. McGavren, 1887; ——— Kirkpatrick, 1890; S. S. Tuttle, 1893; R. L. Crooks, 1898; L. P. Jackson, 1901; R. C. Fiemming, 1903—.

County Commissioners.—Jesse Atkinson and Joshua Goodwin, 1836; William H. Purdy, Joshua Johnson and Henry Reichard, 1837; Stephen Gleason, 1838; Robert Gilliland, 1839; David W. McCoy and Daniel Reid, 1840; Stephen Gleason, 1841; Solomon Hartzog, 1842; James M. Young, 1843; Stephen Gleason, 1844; Absalom Bray, 1845; John Baker, 1846; Johnzey Keith, 1847; Thomas Clayton, 1848; James G. Gilliland, 1849; Johnzey Keith, 1850; Charles German, 1851; William Johns, Isaac Tolan and Stanton C. Dix, 1852; Thomas Cully, 1853; Alexander Mentzer, 1854; S. F. Himmelright, 1855; Lester Bliss, 1856; Thomas Cully, 1857; Alexander Mentzer, 1858; John H. Colwell, 1859; Henry Weible, 1860; Thomas Cully, 1861; James Montgomery, 1862; Thomas Cully and J. C. Curtis, 1863; Thomas Cully, 1864; Stephen Capper and Adam Merrick, 1865; S. F. Conklin and Samuel Neel, 1866; Abijah Goodwin, 1867; James Montgomery, 1868; Theodore Wrocklage, 1869; Abijah Goodwin,

1870; Abraham Balyeat, 1871; Samuel Miller, 1872; Abijah Goodwin, 1873; M. H. Morgan, 1874; Alexander Mentzer, 1875; Abijah Goodwin, 1876; A. A. Bronson, 1877; F. T. Gilliland, 1878; Frederick Lillich, 1879; D. J. Davies, 1880; Henry Rummel and R. R. McDermott, 1881; D. J. Davies, 1882; Henry Rummel, 1883; H. L. Allen, 1884; Franklin Carlo, 1885; A. J. Roller, 1886; William Freck, 1887; Franklin Carlo, 1888; A. J. Roller, 1889; John C. Robinson, 1890; William Freck, 1891; Peter Knittle, 1892; D. H. Edwards, 1893; J. C. Robinson (appointed) and H. H. Ludwig, 1895; L. H. Wise and Peter Knittle, 1896; Henry C. Schumm, 1897; John Ketzenbarger, 1898; M. J. Kerns, 1899; Alexander Mentzer, Jr., 1900; L. H. Wise, 1901; M. J. Kerns, 1902; Alexander Mentzer, Jr., 1903; W. I. Reed, 1904; Edward E. Chambers, 1905; Isaac Everett, 1906. The last three named constitute the present board.

Infirmary Directors.—Abraham Balyeat, William Johnson and John A. Smith, 1867; C. H. Hoffman, 1868; Robert Pollock, 1869; William Rumbaugh, 1870; Henry Reece, 1871; Thomas A. Albans, 1872; Peter Hertz, 1873; E. M. Baker, 1874; Ira Cavett, 1875; I. M. Geise, 1876; B. F. Bowers, 1880-83; Thomas C. Kensler, 1881-87; Joseph Johnson, 1883-86; F. Geisler, 1884-87; Andrew Lybold, 1886-89; A. B. Alspach, 1887-90; A. J. Stewart, 1888-94; K. J. Smith, 1891-93; R. Davidson, 1892-95; George Heist, 1893-96; David Newcomer, 1895-97; Alex. Woten, 1896-98; I. D. Mollenkopf, 1897-1900; W. A. Baxter, 1897-1902; J. Stout, 1898-1901; J. H. Dickinson, 1900-06; L. L. Wolf, 1901-04; Isaac Everett, 1902-05; and F. M. Shaffer (1904), R. W. Inwood (1905) and W. N. Williams (1906), who are the present members.

POPULATION STATISTICS.

The population of Van Wert County in 1890 was 29,671, and in 1900, 30,394. The population of the principal towns and villages of the county in 1890 and 1900 is shown in the subjoined table:

	1890	1900
Venedocia		199
Elgin		208
Wren		242
Scott	733	547
Willshire	566	560
Middlepoint	432	604

	1890	1900
Convoy	500	690
Ohio City	666	862
Delphos	4,516	4,517
Van Wert	5,512	6,422

In 1900 Van Wert County claimed 2,228 of the population of Delphos, while Allen County had 2,289.

As the villages of Monticello, Jonestown, Dull, Schumm, Abanaka, Dixon and Cavett are not given separate mention in the census tables of 1900, their population cannot be given here.

CHAPTER VI

WILLSHIRE TOWNSHIP

The Life of Its Founder, Capt. James Riley—His Terrible Experience in the Great Desert Among the Arabs, After Being Shipwrecked on the Coast of Africa—His Final Deliverance and His Later Life as a Surveyor in Western Ohio—Ansel Blossom and His Eccentric Ways—First Occurrences in the Town of Willshire—The Baptist Church—William White and His Wonderful Physical Development.

The town of Willshire was founded by Capt. James Riley in 1822. Captain Riley had a checkered career, extending through his entire life. He was born in the town of Middletown, in the State of Connecticut, on the 27th of October, 1777. His father, Asher Riley, was a farmer. James was the fourth child of a large family.

It being difficult for his father to support all, James at the age of eight years was placed with a neighboring farmer, and it was stipulated that he was to receive plenty of schooling. But as his help was quite valuable he was kept out of school most of the term, and when his father remonstrated with the man for this neglect, he was met with the excuse that he could not get along with his work without James, and that he had already plenty of schooling, as he was very forward and could spell and read as well as any of the boys of his age. That he could repeat whole chapters of the Bible by heart, and knew all the catechism and creed by heart, which was considered all important by the Presbyterians at that date, and could sing Psalms as well as

those that had studied music. These representations seem to have satisfied the lad's parents in a measure, although they wanted their boy to have a good common-school education. In conducting the schools, a male teacher was usually hired by the school directors of the district, to teach from October to March, at a salary of from \$6 to \$10 a month; and he was expected to board around with the scholars, making his stay with each family, as nearly as possible, in proportion to the number of children therein. The branches taught were spelling, reading and writing, and perchance, if the teacher was qualified, the simple rules of arithmetic. The minister was considered the head of the school, and was considered the most competent to judge the qualifications of the teacher.

Here James Riley remained, laboring on the farm, until his 15th year, when he concluded to go to sea and to visit foreign countries. After meeting strong opposition for a time, which he finally overcame and secured his parent's consent, he shipped on board a sloop bound for the West Indies. Having no

influential friends he made up his mind, in order to succeed, it would be necessary to acquire a knowledge of navigation, theoretically as well as practically, and at the age of 20 had passed through all the grades from cabin boy to cook, ordinary seaman, seaman, second mate, and chief mate on different vessels. He was now six feet one inch in height, and of good proportions. He considered the coast trade too circumscribed for his ambition. He went to New York, where he soon secured command of a good vessel, and for many years visited all the countries visited by American ships. For several years he had charge of cargoes, as well as ships, and enjoyed a share of prosperity until his ship, the "Two Marys" of New York, was seized by the French in 1808, when he took shelter from some English men-of-war at Belie Isle, in the Bay of Biscay. The ship, with its valuable cargo, was confiscated, under the memorable Milan decree, on the 17th of December, 1807, founded on the well-known orders in council of the 11th of November of that year. He remained in France until the ship and cargo were condemned, and did not return to America until the latter part of 1809. He had lost all, or about all, the property he had accumulated, but had occupied his time in learning to read and write and speak both French and Spanish. Not being able to secure a vessel to his liking, and the War of 1812 having driven the commerce of the United States from the ocean, he endeavored to get command of an armed vessel, but without avail. He joined a company of Artillerists and was chosen captain.

At the close of the war, in 1815, he was employed as master and supercargo of the brig "Commerce," of Hartford, Connecticut, belonging to Riley & Brown, Josiah Savage & Company, and Luther Savage. A light cargo was taken on board. The crew consisted of

George Williams, chief mate; Aaron R. Savage, second mate; William Porter, Archibald Robins, Thomas Burns and James Clark, seamen; Horace Savage, cabin boy, and Richard Deslisle (black), cook. With this crew he proceeded to sea on the 6th of May, 1815, and steered for the Bahama Islands, which they reached about the 21st. On the 22nd they passed Orange Keys; on the 23th they ran aground but got off with but little difficulty and ran along the Florida Keys, passing the Tortugas Islands on the 24th. On the 26th they arrived in the Mississippi River, and soon reached New Orleans, where they discharged their cargo, and took another on board, which consisted of flour and tobacco. Here Francis Bliss and James Carrington were dismissed and John Hogan and James Barrett shipped in their stead.

With this crew and cargo, Captain Riley sailed from New Orleans the 24th of June, and proceeded to Gibraltar, where the cargo was landed. They ten took on part of a cargo, consisting of brandies and wines, and some dollars, about 2,000, and set sail from Gibraltar the 23rd of August, 1815, intending to go by way of the Cape Verde Islands to complete the loading of the vessel with salt. They passed Cape Spartel on the 24th, intending to make the Canary Islands and pass between Teneriff and Palma, but the weather being very foggy they missed the Canaries. From that time on, the weather was foggy and it was impossible to get an observation.

On the 28th of August at 10 P. M., they were wrecked on the coast of Africa. Knowing that the vessel would soon go to pieces, they prepared to take on shore a supply of fresh water, wine, salt pork and bread, as well as a bucket full of dollars and trunks, clothes, books and charts. In the attempt to get a line on shore, the boat was swamped and Riley and

Porter were thrown into the sea, but fortunately were carried to land, as also were their boat and line. The trunks, chests and everything else that would float were thrown overboard. The hawser was stretched from the wreck to land, and the long-boat, loaded with provisions, was attached to the hawser by rings and carried to land by the waves. As the long-boat was stove in and the small one could not live a moment in the waves and as there was danger of the wreck going to pieces, it was important to get the crew to land. This was done by stretching the hawser taut and having one come on shore at a time. They were all saved and landed on shore.

The provisions, clothing, etc., were gathered and carried up out of reach of the waves, and they were in hopes that they would not be discovered by any human being, but in this they were mistaken for they saw a man plundering their clothing that was strewn along the beach.

He appeared to be about five feet eight inches tall, and of the complexion between the American Indian and the negro. His hair was long and bushy and sticking out about six inches from his head. His face resembled that of an ourang-outang more than that of a human being. His mouth was stretched nearly from ear to ear, and a long curling beard, which depended from his upper lip and his chin down upon his breast, gave him a horrid appearance. He was soon joined by two old women of similar appearance, supposed to be his wives, who looked a little less frightful. They were followed by a girl of from 18 to 20 years and five or six children of different ages. They had with them an English hammer and a kind of an ax. They now began indiscriminate plundering—breaking open chests and trunks, and emptying the contents out and carrying the clothing up on the sand hills. Riley and his

crew repaired the long-boat as best they could, although it could not be prevented from leaking. They placed a guard around their tent, which they had made out of part of a sail, and thus passed the night. As soon as it was light the old man came down, accompanied by his wives and two young men. Above his head he balanced a spear of iron, having a handle about 12 feet long and made motions as if to throw it at Riley and his men, ordering them off to the wreck. Pointing at the same time to a large drove of camels coming down, the women ran off whooping and yelling and beckoning to those in charge of the camels to approach. The old man would not allow the shipwrecked sailors to escape him in any direction but that of the wreck. They finally reached the wreck, although their boat was half filled with water.

The old man and the four young men, as two more had come with the camels, loaded the barrels of bread and the other provisions on their camels, which kneeled down to receive them, and sent them off with the children. They stove in the heads of the water casks and the wine casks and spilled the contents on the sand. Then they gathered up the trunks, chests and casks, with the sea instruments and charts, and burned them in a pile.

Riley and his crew now made what arrangements they could for putting to sea in their leaky long-boat. Their first effort swamped the boat, but they finally righted it, and, after bailing out the water, succeeded in getting on board, with nothing in the way of provisions, except a few bottles of wine and some salt pork, as the bread had all been spoiled by being soaked with salt water.

At this stage the savages seemed to have some pity for the condition in which the crew were placed and made all signs of peace and friendship, beckoning Riley to come on shore,

and carrying all their arms up over the hills. The old man made known that he wanted to go on board the wreck, while Riley was to remain on land, which was done. After satisfying himself that there was nothing on board that he wanted, he inquired for fire-arms and money, and finding none was about to return to land, whereupon Riley signaled to the crew not to let the old man come ashore until he was released, but they did not understand him. As the old man neared the beach, Riley was about to rise to meet him, when both of his arms were seized by two of the young men, one on each side, and the women and children presented their daggers, knives and spears at his head and breast. While the young men held him fast, the old man seized hold of his hair and with his scimitar made a motion as if to cut his throat or his head off. This seemed to be only to frighten him. The old man then ordered him to bring all the money on shore. One of the men, came on the hawser from the wreck to know what they should do, and was told by Riley that all the money they had should be immediately brought on shore, but the man being in the water and at some distance from Riley did not understand that the money was not to be delivered until Riley was released. The money, about 1,000 dollars, was put in a bucket and slung on the hawser. Porter shoved it along before him and was about to take it to Riley, when the latter made him understand that he was to stay in the water. One of the young men brought the money to the beach and poured it into the old man's blanket, while the latter held his scimitar pointed at Riley's breast. When the money was divided, they made Riley rise and then all started to leave the beach, holding him by the arms with naked daggers pointed at him. Thereupon he made them understand by signs that there was more money on board the vessel. Turning

about, they seated Riley on the sand, and commanded him to order the money brought on shore. There being no money on the vessel, Riley asked to have Antonio Mitchell sent on shore.

As soon as Antonio Mitchell knew what was wanted, he came on shore. The natives, expecting he would bring money, flocked around him and finding he had not become very angry, beat him, stripped off his clothing and pricked him with their knives. Riley told him to signify to them that there was money buried near where the tent had been. A spy glass, handsaw, and several other things had been buried and near them a bag with about four hundred dollars. Antonio soon made them understand what he wanted and, taking them to the place, began to dig. During this time Riley was seated on the sand with the old man on one side, with his spear pointed at Riley's breast and the young man with his scimitar within six inches of him, both intent on watching him. When the first articles were discovered and the guards for an instant turned their heads in that direction, at that instant Riley sprang away and ran for the water, into which he plunged head foremost and then swam under the water for quite a distance. The old man was within 10 feet of him in water up to his chin, and in the act of hurling his spear, when a wave rolled over Riley and dashed his pursuers backward on the beach. Riley managed to reach the boat and was taken on board. The natives were so enraged that they ran a spear through Antonio's body, killing him instantly.

Riley and his men made what preparations were possible, and put to sea in their leaky boat with a small quantity of water, some salt pork and a few figs. The boat leaked so badly that it required two men bailing all the time to keep her clear. On August 30, 1815, they fitted a

sail, made what other preparations they could and started for the open sea. They were afraid to run along the coast for fear of being dashed against the rocky coast in the night.

On the 2nd of September, not having seen any sail and the men having become so weak that some of them could not take their turn bailing, and feeling that the boat could not possibly hold together another day, it was decided to make for the coast, in hopes of finding water to allay their thirst, which had become unbearable.

When they approached the land it seemed that it was formed of perpendicular cliffs, rising to great height, with no level place on which to land. At last finding a level spot only large enough to haul their boat up on, they landed. On September 8th, they left all that was cumbersome and started along the coast, as it was impossible to ascend to the top of the cliffs. They proceeded along close to the water's edge, as the rocks rose several hundred feet in height. The first day they were only able to make four miles, clambering through among the fallen rocks. On the 9th of September they could see a level piece of coast, but before reaching it they were met with an obstruction, that seemed to be impossible to overcome—an immense rock had fallen down, completely blocking the way. This rock, which appeared to be about half way to the level sand, had been washed full of holes, and was completely submerged with each incoming wave, but left bare when the wave receded. Riley felt that if he could reach this before another wave came in, he could hold on and let the wave roll over him and when it receded make for the level sand. This he did successfully and was followed by each of the crew in the same manner, holding onto the rock until the wave had swept over him and had receded

and then running for the level sand. They were all more or less bruised by being dashed against the rock by the waves, but were thankful to escape with their lives. Here they dug several holes in the sand, hoping to find water, but were disappointed. They then ascended to the plain above by clambering among the crevices in the broken rocks and were met with a barren waste of sand with not a green leaf or tree in sight. The men's thirst by this time had become unbearable, and they all recognized that it would be impossible to live for another day. The heat was intolerable. The sand here was packed as hard as a rock, with sharp stones projecting. They decided to try to find a place for the night's rest, where the sand would be more suitable for a resting place. While dragging their weary bodies along, they were cheered by beholding a light. Fearing to approach in the dark, they waited until daylight.

In the morning, as they approached the camp, they found Arabs watering their camels. Riley, with Williams and Savage, advanced, bowing to the ground. The men approached with scimitars in their hands, but finding no opposition they proceeded to strip off Riley's clothing and also that of Williams. Savage and the cook, the whole crew being soon stripped. When those on the camels came up, those that stripped the prisoners threw sand into the air, as a signal of hostility, and there immediately commenced a scramble for the prisoners, a bloody fight ensuing in which scimitars were freely used. After the fight the prisoners were placed in the care of the women and taken to the well, where they were given water to drink out of a vessel placed on the ground, being compelled to get down and drink like the camels. They were also given some sour camel's milk with water in it. When they

asked, by signs, for something to eat, they found that the Arabs had nothing for themselves. There were about this well about 100 persons, men, women, and children, and about 400 or 500 camels. About 10 o'clock A. M. one company, having finished watering their camels, separated Williams, Robins, Porter, Hogan, Barret and Burns from the others and mounted them on camels, barebacked behind the hump, compelling the men to hold on by the hair. There remained with the party to which Riley belonged, Savage, Clark, Horace and Dick, the cook. The prisoners were forced to draw water for the camels. After filling several goat-skins with water, the skins were slung by the legs on each side of the camels. The Arabs next put on the baskets in which the women and children rode, these baskets being made of camel's skins with a wooden rim around, so that three or four could ride in each with safety. These were fastened with ropes passing under the bellies of the camels. The prisoners were compelled to walk and drive the camels. The sand was so soft that they sank into it at every step and it was hot enough to cook an egg. The sun on the bare backs of the prisoners was more severe than can be imagined by any person that has never had the experience. After reaching the summit, five camels were selected and each prisoner placed on one, behind the hump. It was extremely difficult to hold on, especially as the camels were restless and ran around among the herd making a great bellowing. The sun had so blistered the bodies of the prisoners that they were soon afflicted with bad sores, while the insides of their legs were so chafed that they were bleeding. The men had gone on ahead at a trot, leaving the prisoners to the care of the women who urged us forward. Riley begged to be allowed to dismount, but the women paid no attention to his entreaties and

finally he let go his hold and fell off backward. He was then compelled to run to keep up with the camels. He says that here only the remembrance of his wife and children kept him from resorting to self-destruction. They made no stop until near midnight, when they had traveled about 40 miles. Here they milked the camels and gave each of the prisoners about a pint of warm milk to drink. They lay on the hard ground and suffered from cold, their bodies being entirely naked.

The morning of the 11th, the camels were milked and each prisoner allowed a pint of milk as before. There was here another dispute as to the ownership of the different prisoners, which was finally settled after some quarreling and drawing of knives. Toward evening a great many men having assembled, a halt was made and a council held, at which there were present about 150 men. Here Riley was questioned by an old man as to his nativity, and how they had reached the coast. He made the Arabs understand that they came in a ship by piling up sand and sticking sticks in for masts. They questioned him as to his knowledge of the country, and whether he knew where Morocco was, and the name of the emperor, all of which he answered to their satisfaction, also giving them to understand that if the prisoners were taken there they would be ransomed.

Having concluded their council, they separated, each master taking his slave and going his own way. Riley was delivered to an Arab named Bickri, who took him near his tent and made him lie down like a camel. Near midnight the Arab brought Riley about a quart of milk and water, which he drank and then lay down and slept. He had the most frightful dreams. He dreamed over all their past experiences since the shipwreck; that they were being driven by the natives with red-hot irons.

and made to pass naked and barefoot, with the flames up to his eyes, through a most dreadful fire for nearly a mile, which scorched off every part of his skin and wasted away his flesh by burning, roasting and drying it off to the bones. His torments seemed to be inconceivable. He now thought he looked up towards heaven and prayed to the Almighty to receive his spirit and end his suffering, when a bright spot like an eye, with rays around it in the midst of the flames, appeared above him in the firmament, with a point below reaching to the northeast. He thought if he went that way he would go right and turned from the south to the northeast. The fire soon subsided and he went on, still urged with spears, by those about him pricking him from time to time, over high sand hills and rocky steeps, his flesh dropping off as he went. Then, descending a deep valley, he thought he saw green trees, flowering shrubs in blossom, cows feeding on green grass, with horses, sheep and asses near him and as he moved on he discovered a brook of clear running water. His thirst being excessive, he dragged his mangled limbs to the brook, threw himself down and drank his fill of the most delicious water. When his thirst was quenched, he rolled himself in the brook and cooled his body, which still seemed to be consumed with heat. He then thanked God for his mercies. His masters in the meantime hurried him on in the way pointed out by the All-Seeing Eye, which was still visible in the heavens above his head. Through crooked, thorny and narrow paths, over high mountains and deep valleys, past hosts of armed men on horseback and on foot, and walled cities, he went, until he met a tall young man dressed in the European and American manner, riding on a stately horse beside a brook, who on seeing Riley alighted and rushing forward with great joy caught him in his arms and pressed

him to his breast, calling him endearing names of brother in his own language. He thought he fainted in the young man's arms for excessive joy, and when he revived he found himself in a neat room with a table set in the best manner before him, covered with the choicest of meats, nuts, fruits and wines, and his deliverer pressing him to eat and drink. Finding him too much overcome to partake of the refreshments the young man said: "Take courage, my dear friend; God has decreed that you shall again embrace your beloved wife and children." At this instant he was called by his master. He awoke and found it a dream.

Riley was then ordered to drive forward the camels, which he did for about an hour, but his feet were so swollen and lacerated that he could not help stooping and crouching down nearly to the ground. In this condition he was seen by Sidi Hamet, who became his first master. Going to Bickri, Hamet talked with him a good while, and then took off the blanket from his back and gave it to Bickri. Coming close to Riley, he motioned him to stop, made his camel lie down, and then fixed a skin over his back behind the saddle, making the two ends fast to the girth to keep it from slipping off. He then had him mount while he got on his own saddle and steadied him until the camel got up. They continued on the same direction as before. The sun was very hot on his bare back and his head, which seemed bursting, yet the recollection of his dream gave him courage. This was on the 12th of September. That evening he met Hogan and found that he and Hogan had been purchased by Hamet. At midnight Hamet gave each of them a pint of pure milk, which was very refreshing. On the morning of the 13th he saw Williams, but the latter's body was entirely naked and the skin burned off and the flesh so inflamed,

that Riley only recognized him by his voice. His master arrived and they moved on, and he could see that the inside of his legs and thighs hung in strips of skin and was bleeding. About an hour after, his master beckoned him to come to him and a tall old man, nearly as black as a negro joined them. He was the most ill looking they had yet seen. After some bartering Riley was given to the old man. He and his two sons were on foot but walked faster than the camels, and Riley did his best to keep up, but when he could no longer do so the old man beat him on the bare back with his stick to urge him on. He was staggering and smarting under the wounds inflicted by the old man, when he was approached by one of the sons, who gave him a double-barreled gun to carry. He supposed this was intended as an additional punishment, but it was given in kindness as the old man ceased his beating. At about 4 P. M. having come near the tent his load was taken from him, and he was made to lie down in the shade of the tent. He begged for water, but could get none. The time now came for prayers which ceremony was performed very devoutly by the old man and his two sons. Then they went away. He was in so much pain that he could hardly contain himself and his thirst was more severe than it had yet been. He tried to soften the hearts of the women to get him some water, but they only laughed at him and drove him from the shade of the tent, and he was forced to remain in the scorching sun the remainder of the long day. Shortly after sunset the old man and his two sons, with about 20 or 30 men, came and went through their religious ceremony in a very solemn manner. The women and children did not join in. Soon after this was over, Clark came in with the camels: every part of his flesh was exposed, and his flesh was excessively mangled, burned and inflamed. Clark said to

Riley: "I am glad to see you once more, for I cannot live through the approaching night, and beg of you, if you ever get to our own country, to tell my brothers and sisters how I perished."

Riley encouraged him the best he could and told him that he believed that they would all be yet enabled to reach home. The old man had told him that as soon as it rained they would journey to the northeast to sell them. As night approached he begged the old master to allow them to go under the corner of the tent, to which he assented, but the women would not allow it and they were compelled to remain out until the men had milked the camels. Then each was given nearly a quart of milk. After the women were asleep, one of the young men, named Omar, the same that made Riley carry his gun the preceding day to keep his father from beating him, came and made them creep under the tent without waking the women. The soft sand served as a bed and the prisoners slept soundly. As soon as the women awoke, they were for thrusting them out, with blows, but the men pretended to be sleeping. The old man, looking on them seemed somewhat concerned lest he should lose his property, told the women to leave them alone, and as he was absolute they had to obey. They did not move the next day, and after they had milked and drank they gave the prisoners what was left. They were suffered to remain under the corner of the tent in the shade all day, and the next night were given a skin that would partly cover them and keep off the night wind. The Arabs gave them a good drink of milk when they drank themselves the second night, and Omar had given them about a pint of water in the middle of the day. The two nights and one day's rest had revived them very much. These were the 14th and 15th of September.

From the 15th to the 18th they journeyed

toward the southeast in search of shrubs for the camels to subsist on. On the 19th a council was held, in which it appeared that Riley's master was looked up to as a man of superior judgment and influence, and they began a route back again towards the sea and the well where they were first made slaves. They had journeyed seven days, and it would take the same time to return, there being no prospect of water in any other direction and it was doubtful if the camels could live that long, as they were almost dry now, and their milk was all the provision that there was for all the people. In the course of the day Riley and Clark gathered about a handful of snails, which, with about a gill of milk, was all they had to eat in 24 hours. On the 20th they proceeded very fast in the direction of the seashore, and on the 21st they rested. Here they met Savage, Horace, Hogan and the cook, who were all very much emaciated and sore and had been carried on camels the last few days. They all felt they could not live another day. There were no snails to be had here, and they had not a drop of milk or water to drink. Horace, Hogan and the cook were employed in attending their master's camels, with two Arabs, who kept flogging them nearly the whole time.

Riley's master was quite wealthy and had from 60 to 70 camels. He was a kind of a priest and every evening he was joined in his devotions by all the old and most of the young men. They first washed themselves with sand, instead of water; then each wrapped himself in a strip of cloth and turned his face toward the east. Then Riley's old master stepped out before them and commenced by bowing twice, repeating at each time "*Allah Houakibar*," then kneeling and bowing his head to the ground twice, then raising himself up on his feet and repeating "*Hi el Allah Sheda Moham-med Rahsool Allah*," bowing himself twice,

and again prostrating himself twice, then "*Allah Houakibar*" was three times repeated. He was always accompanied in his motions and words by all present, who could see him distinctly as he stood before them. He then made a long prayer. All recited together a chapter in the Koran and then joined in chanting some hymn or sacred song. This ceremony being finished, they again prostrated themselves with their faces to the earth, and the services concluded.

About the middle of the day two strangers arrived, riding two camels loaded with goods. They came in front of Riley's master's tent and having made their camels lie down, dismounted, and seating themselves on the ground opposite the tent with their faces turned the other way. There were in this valley seven tents.

All the men had gone out hunting on their camels (for plunder), taking their arms with them. The old and young women went to see the strangers and, having no water, took with them a large skin with a roll of tent cloth to make them a shelter. The strangers rose as the women drew near and saluted them by the words "*Labez Labez Salem, Labez Alikom*" ("Peace, Peace be with you"). The women returned the salute in the same words. They then fixed an awning, and took the bundles from the camels and the saddles and placed them in the tent. While the women were making these preparations, the strangers remained seated on the ground beside their guns, as each had a double-barreled musket. The women then seated themselves on the ground near the strangers and as near as Riley could gather asked where they came from, how long they had been on the road and what goods they had. Having satisfied their curiosity, the old woman went to Riley and told him that Sidi Hamet had come with blankets and blue cloth to sell, that he came from the Sultan's dominions, and

that he could buy Riley and carry him there if he chose, and where he might find his friends and kiss his wife and children. Before the men returned, Riley went to the tent of Sidi Hamet with a wooden bowl and begged for some water, showing his mouth. He looked at Riley and asked if he was *Rias* (the captain), which being answered in the affirmative, he told his brother to give him some water, which his brother would not do; then he himself took the bowl and poured out about a quart of clear water, saying "*Sherub Rias*" that is "Drink Captain." Riley drank about half of it and was going to take the rest to the tent where Clark lay stretched out on his back, a perfect wreck, breathing like a person in the last agonies of death, but Sidi Hamet would not permit him to carry the water away, bidding him drink it himself. After Clark's condition was pointed out to him, Sidi Hamet permitted Riley to give Clark the balance. It was perfectly fresh and revived him exceedingly. He said, "This is good water and must have come from a better country than this. If we were once there and I could get one good drink of such water, I could die with pleasure, but now I cannot live another day."

The men soon returned and began with others of the tribe, who had received the news of the arrival of the strangers, to form a circle and chat with them and each other; this continued till night, and Riley thought there were at least 200 men present. After dark they began to separate, and by 10 o'clock at night none remained at the tent but Riley's old master's family and three or four of their relatives. On this occasion Riley and the other prisoners were turned out into the open air, and were obliged to pass the night without shelter or covering. It was a long and tedious night, but at the time of milking the camels the old master came to them and, as if afraid of losing his

property by their death, and anxious that they should live, dealt out about a pint of milk to each. This milk tasted better than any they had yet tasted; it was sweet and saved Clark from dissolution. This was the first nourishment they had had in three days.

The next morning Sidi Hamet came toward the tent, beckoned Riley to come to him and bade him sit down on the ground. Riley had by this time learned many words in their language, which was ancient Arabic, and could understand the general current of their conversation by paying attention to it. Hamet began questioning Riley about his country and the manner in which he had come there. Riley made him understand that he was an Englishman, and that his vessel and crew were of the same nation. Riley found that Sidi Hamet had heard of the shipwreck and of the English. Riley stated, as well as he could, the manner of the shipwreck and told him that they were reduced to the lowest depth of misery; that he had a wife and five children in his own country besides Horace, whom Riley called his eldest son, mingling with his story sighs and tears and all the signs of affection and despair which the recollection and his present condition called forth.

Riley found Sidi Hamet to be a very intelligent man, for although he knew no language but the Arabic, he comprehended so well what Riley wished to communicate, that he actually shed tears at the recital of their distress, notwithstanding that among the Arabs weeping is regarded as a womanish weakness. He seemed to be ashamed of his own want of fortitude, and said that men who had beards like him ought not to shed tears. And he retired wiping his eyes. Finding that he had awakened Hamet's sympathy, Riley thought he would try by offers of large amounts of money to induce him to buy himself and his compan-

sons and carry them out of the desert. So the first time he saw him alone, he went to him and begged him to buy him and carry him and his companions up from the desert to the Sultan of Morocco or Marockah where he (Riley) could find a friend. He said "No," but he would carry him to Swearah, describing it as a walled town and seaport. Riley told him that he had seen the Sultan and that he was a friend to his nation. He then asked Riley many other questions about Mohammed Rahsool. Riley bowed and pointed to the east, then towards Heaven, as if he thought he had ascended there. This seemed to please Hamet, who asked how much money Riley would give him to carry him up; upon which Riley counted over 50 pieces of stones, signifying that he would give as many dollars for himself and each of his men. "I will not buy the others," he said, "but how much more than 50 dollars will you give me for yourself, if I buy you and carry you to your friends. Have you any money in Swearah?" asked he by signs and words, "Or do you mean to make me wait till you get it from your country?" Riley replied that his friends in Swearah would give him the money so soon as he was brought there. "You are deceiving me," said he. Riley made the most solemn protestations of his sincerity. "I will buy you then," said he, "but remember if you deceive me I will cut your throat," (making a motion to that effect). This Riley assented to and begged him to buy his son Horace also, but he would not hear a word about any of the others of the crew, as it would be impossible, he said, to get them up off the desert, which was a great distance. "Say nothing about it to your old master, nor to my brother, nor any of the others." He then left Riley, who went out to seek for snails to relieve his hunger. Riley saw Savage and Hogan and brought them with Clark near Sidi Hamet's tent, where

they sat down on the ground. He came out to see them, miserable objects as they were and seemed very much shocked at the sight. Riley told his companions that he had great hopes that they would be bought by this man and carried up to the cultivated country. But they expressed great fears that they would be left behind. Sidi Hamet asked Riley many questions about his men, and wished to know if any of them had died and if they had wives and children. Riley tried all he could to interest him in their behalf, as well as his own. Riley found that his companions had been very much stinted with milk as well as himself, and that they had had no water. They had found a few snails, which had kept them alive, but even these now failed.

On the 24th they journeyed on all day toward the northwest, the whole tribe, or nearly so, in company and the strangers also. When Riley's mistress pitched her tent near night, she made up one for Sidi Hamet also. Riley begged of him on his knees, every time he had an opportunity, for him to buy his companions, and on the 25th he had the happiness to see Hamet pay his old master for him, giving the old Arab two blankets or coarse haicks, one blue cotton covering and a bundle of ostrich feathers, with which the old man seemed much pleased, as he had now three suits of clothing. They were a long time making the bargain.

This day Horace came with his master to fetch something to the tent. At his approach Riley went to meet him and embraced him with tears in his eyes. Sidi Hamet was fully convinced that Horace was Riley's son. Riley had found a few snails this morning; these he divided between Mr. Savage and Horace before Sidi Hamet, who signified to him in the afternoon that he intended to set out with Riley in two days for Swearah; that he had tried to buy Riley's son, but could not succeed, for his

master would not sell him at any price. Then said Riley, "Let me stay in his place." He said he would be a faithful slave to his master as long as he lived. He asked Sidi Hamet to carry Horace up to Swearah saying that his friend would pay for him and send him home to his mother, whom Riley, himself, could not see unless he brought her son with him. "You shall have your son, by Allah," said Sidi Hamet. The whole tribe were gathered in council relative to this business, as Riley supposed. In the course of the afternoon they debated the matter over and seemed to turn it every way; they fought, besides, three or four battles with fists and scimitars, in their warm blood and loud discussion in settling individual disputes. In the evening he was told that Horace was bought, as the tribe in council had forced his master to sell him, though at a great price.

Riley now redoubled his entreaties with his new master to buy Savage, Clark and the remainder of the crew, telling him that he would give him a large sum of money if he got them up safe; but Sidi Hamet told him that he would be compelled to carry them through bands of robbers, who would kill him for their sakes, and that his company was not strong enough to resist them by force of arms. Riley fell on his knees and implored him to buy Savage and Clark at any rate, thinking if he should buy them he might be induced to purchase the remaining part of the crew. Riley's mind had been so busy employed in schemes of redemption as to almost forget his own sufferings, since Sidi Hamet had bought him. He had given Riley two or three drinks of water and had begged milk for him from his former master.

On the morning of the 26th Riley renewed his entreaties for him to purchase Savage, Clark and Hogan; the others he had not seen

since the second or third day after they were in the hands of the Arabs. Riley did not know where they were and could not designate them to his new master Hamet, though he told the latter all their names. Hogan and Savage looked much more healthy and likely to live than Clark, and Sidi Hamet insisted that it was impossible that Clark could live more than three days and that if he bought him he would lose his money.

Riley told him he should not lose his money, for whether Clark should live or die he should have his money. Clark was affected with scald head, rendered a raw sore in consequence of his sufferings; and his hair, which was very long, was of course in a very filthy condition. This attracted the attention of Sidi Hamet and his brother, the latter of whom was very surly and cross looking. They poked the hair and scabs with their sticks and demanded to know what was the occasion of the filthy condition. Clark assured them that it was in consequence of his exposure to the sun and as that was the reason attributed by Riley for the horrible sores and blisters that covered their bodies and half-wasted flesh, they said it might be so, but asked why the heads of the rest were not so. They next found fault with Riley's shins, which had for a long time been very sore, and they examined every bone to see if it was all right in its place, with the caution that would be taken with the purchase of a horse.

Sidi Hamet finally informed Riley that he had bought Savage and Clark, and had bargained for Hogan, and that he was going to kill a camel that night for provisions for the journey. The water had been expended for two days and all the other families were alike destitute. Riley did not get more than a gill of milk and a small handful of snails in 24 hours. The snails served in a small degree to allay

their hunger. Riley was extremely anxious for the killing of the camel. He and Clark spent the afternoon gathering sticks to make a fire. A little after midnight Hamet showed them where to carry the wood they had collected. It was in a little gully that it might not be seen by the neighbors, while their former master was leading the camel up to the same place. On its arrival they made it lie down in the usual manner. It was a very old one and very poor, so that it was not able to keep up with the drove during the journey. Sidi Hamet told Riley that he had bought it for a blanket. The camel being down, they put a rope around its lower jaw with a noose, then hauling its head around made the rope fast to its tail. Then they brought a copper kettle that would hold about three gallons. Thus prepared, Sidi Hamet opened a vein in the right side of the camel's neck, close to its breast; the blood streamed out into the kettle and soon filled it half full. This they set over the fire and boiled, stirring it all the time until it became thick and of the consistency of calf liver. Then, taking it off the fire, they passed it to Riley, saying "*Coole Riley*" ("Eat Riley"). Riley did not wait for a second bidding but fell to, with Clark. Their appetites were voracious and they soon filled themselves with this delicious food.

Notwithstanding the lateness of the hour, and the privacy observed in killing the camel, many of the hungry neighbors had found it out and came to assist in the dressing and eating of the animal. They insisted on having some of the blood, and would snatch a handful, in spite of all the masters could do to hinder them. They were very officious in helping to take off the hide. The entrails were rolled out and they put the small entrails into the kettle (without cleansing them of their contents), with what remained of the liver and lights, but

they had no water to boil them. Then one of them went to the camel's paunch, which was very large, and, cutting a slit in it, dipped out some water in a bowl, thick with the camel's excrement; this they poured into the kettle and set it to boiling, stirring it and now and then taking out one of the entrails and biting it to see if it was cooked.

During this time a half dozen hungry wretches were at work on the camel, which they would not leave, under the pretense of friendship for the owners, and would not suffer the strangers to work; and it being dark they managed to steal and carry away more than half of the camel's bones before morning, with half the meat and half the skin.

The masters, though they bought the camel and were as hungry as any of them, could scarcely get a bite of the entrails without fighting for them. Though the masters saw the natives in the very act of stealing and carrying off their meat, they could not prevent them, fearing worse consequences, it being a standing maxim to feed the hungry, even if the owner of the food be obliged to rob himself and family to do it.

Notwithstanding the blood Riley and Clark had eaten was perfectly fresh, their thirst increased in consequence of it. In the morning a boy came running and stuck his head in the paunch and commenced drinking. Riley's master, seeing that Riley's mouth was very dry, told him to pull the boy away and drink. This was soon done, putting his head in up to his shoulders and drinking of the contents. The liquid was very thick, but not salt, and allayed their thirst.

The morning was spent in cutting off the little meat from the bones and spreading it to dry; the bones were roasted on the fire for their masters, who cracked them between two stones and sucked out the marrow. Near noon Horace

was brought to where Riley was; he was very hungry and thirsty and said he had had nothing for the last three days. Sidi Hamet said to Riley, "This is your son, Rias." He seemed to be real glad that he had been able to purchase him and gave him some of the entrails to eat that he had saved for that purpose. Riley also gave him some of the thick camel's water, which he found to be very delicious. Burns came up soon after, and Sidi Hamet asked if he was one of the crew, to which Riley replied that he was. Sidi Hamet said that Burns' master wanted to sell him, but he was old and good for nothing, adding that he could buy him for a blanket, showing Riley a very poor old one. "Buy him," said Riley; "he is my countryman, and I will pay as much for him as for the others." Thereupon Sidi Hamet went out and bought Burns and gave him something to eat. Poor Burns was greatly rejoiced that there was a prospect of getting his liberty and of getting something to eat. Sidi Hamet that afternoon bought Hogan, and the latter came and was given something to eat. By night the natives had stolen so much that there only remained 15 pounds of the camel. Hogan's late master now claimed one more blanket than had been agreed upon. As he was a stout fellow, Sidi Hamet would not be imposed upon. Riley begged very hard for poor Hogan, all to no purpose, and his old master drove him away, laying on his back with a stick unmercifully. Hamet's eyes seemed to fairly flash as he left them. Hogan's hopes had been raised, now to be blasted and to be driven away like a criminal.

The day was employed in making preparation for their departure. Their masters made them sandals of camel skins, a small knife was hung on Riley's neck as a token of authority, and he was placed in command of the rest of the slaves. In the evening Sidi Hamet told

Riley that Savage would be with them by and by, and that they would start in the morning for Swearah, and that he hoped they would again be free. He then told Riley how much he had paid for each of them; that he had expended all of his property and that if Riley had not told him the truth he would be a ruined man. He then made Riley repeat before his brother Riley's promises to him, and the penalty of having his throat cut if his words did not prove true. Late that evening Savage arrived. He was very thankful to get something to eat, as Sidi Hamet had saved some of the entrails for him, which were now given him. They saved what water remained in the camel's paunch and put it in a goatskin, straining it through their fingers to get out the thickest of the filth.

On the morning of the 28th they were called and made to load the camels. All the Arabs in the valley set out in the morning to drive their camels to water; they had now been without water for 18 days; and were now at least two days' journey from the well where Riley and his men had been taken prisoners. Soon after sunrise Archibald Robins came with his master to see Riley and the others. Riley begged on his knees, for Sidi Hamet to buy Robins, but he said it was impossible and hurried them on. Riley told Robins of his present hopes and urged him to keep up his courage and that if he were successful in gaining his freedom, he would endeavor to effect Robins' release also.

Sidi Hamet and Seid, his brother, had two old camels on which they had ridden and they also bought a young one that was not broke for riding. They were now joined by a young Arab, called Abdallah—he had been Savage's master and owned a camel. Sidi Hamet had a kind of saddle for each of the old camels, but nothing to cover the bones of the young one.

He placed Savage, Burns, and Horace on the big one, and Riley and Clark on the other one. Seid and Abdallah took seats on the one belonging to Abdallah, and Sidi Hamet mounted the young one, sitting behind the hump bareback, breaking him. Thus they started at a long trot. They started at 9 A. M. and continued for about three hours, when they stopped to rest in a little valley. Here Sidi Hamet pulled out a checked shirt and gave it to Riley; he said he had stolen it and that he had tried to get one for Horace, but could not. He said, "Put it on, your poor backs need it."

The next morning they started before daylight and only stopped about 15 minutes, traveling fully 105 miles. That night the men were forced to lie on the bare ground, without any covering, with the cold wind blowing a gale; they did not sleep a bit. If placed upon the rack, their sufferings could not have been greater. Sidi Hamet seemed greatly grieved at their condition, and said that they would soon come to good water, where they could drink all they wanted and then they would not travel so fast. On the 29th they were placed on the camels a little after daylight, having nothing to eat and only a little camel's urine to drink, which they preferred to their own; though bitter it was not salt. Proceeding on their journey at a long trot, they came to what appeared to have been an arm of the sea or a river, but was dry. After searching for some time, they found a spring of sweet water, of which they drank their fill. Here the camels were watered. Here Riley learned the quantity of water a camel could drink. They filled a goatskin that would hold at least four gallons 15 times, and one camel drank all of it. Having finished watering the camels, they started on their journey. They this day traveled about 50 miles.

That night they ate the last of their camel's

meat, which was not more than an ounce apiece. On the morning of the 30th, they started very early and let the camels walk, although their walk required those of the party that were afoot to keep on a trot to not fall behind. About 2 o'clock P. M. Sidi Hamet said, "*Riley Shift Camel*" (Riley, I see a camel"). He was very much rejoiced and so were his companions. But neither Riley nor his companions could see anything of the kind for at least two hours; then they saw a camel approaching like a speck on the horizon, but it did not come up until sunset. They had traveled about 40 miles. They were in a terrible condition, worn to skin and bone, chafed and sore in every joint and muscle, and were compelled to lie on the hard ground, not even loose sand, for a bed. About 11 o'clock P. M. Sidi Hamet brought a bowl of cooked meat which was divided among them.

On the morning of October 1st they started early. Sidi Hamet called Riley and told him that this man had his spy glass and wanted to know what it was worth, this and some other things, that convinced Riley that they were in the vicinity of the place where they were shipwrecked. About 4 P. M. they fell in with some Arabs, who had been to the northward to water their camels. They continued with them over night. Riley and his companions found some soft sand to lie on and slept until midnight, when they were awakened and given a good drink of milk. They had traveled about 40 miles.

On the 2nd day of October, the tribe did not move as Sidi Hamet said they would remain in camp for the purpose of feasting his party. This tribe, like all the others that Riley met, took no nourishment except a drink of milk at midnight. On October 3rd they left this hospitable tribe of Arabs, who had fed them, and traveled about 30 miles.

On the 4th they set out, all on foot, driving

their camels. Here the sand was loose and difficult to walk in. They now came to immense sand hills, and the wind blowing almost a hurricane, blew loose sand in their faces, which cut like knives. At dark they made a shelter from the wind and sand with their saddles, for their masters and themselves. They had made about 30 miles that day.

On October 5th Riley and his companions started to drive the camels into camp, when they stampeded and all their exertions could not stop them. Sidi Hamet, seeing their predicament, came to their relief and after some time succeeded in bringing the camels back. They could only make about two miles an hour in the deep sand. The sand was as hot as coals to their feet. They now had nothing to eat. About midnight Riley was awakened by a roaring sound and supposed it was a sand storm, that would soon bury them; but as it did not come nearer and the wind did not increase they concluded it was the ocean. This was the first time they had heard the sea roar, since the 10th of September. This proved that their masters were going toward Morocco.

On the 6th of October they started early, and Sidi Hamet said they would get no more milk. About noon their masters discovered two camels and as they approached near unsheathed and primed their guns. They found the camels loaded and drove them along quietly. Sidi Hamet found the owners asleep and snatched a bag from near their heads. He overtook Seid and Abdallah, made the camels lie down, opened the sacks and found them filled with barley, the first bread stuff the prisoners had seen. They took about 50 pounds of barley and tied up the sacks. The small sack that Sidi Hamet had taken from near the heads of the sleepers contained barley meal. One of them overtook the party. Sidi Hamet motioned the man to go back but he continued

to advance; thereupon they halted and when the man came up he said he had lost a part of his property and believed they had it; that he was their brother and would rather die than commit a bad action or suffer others to do one with impunity; that they had firearms, but that he did not fear them. They seated themselves upon the ground, and Sidi Hamet and his brother justified themselves, as their slaves were starving. After a long discussion they decided to restore what they had taken, and the barley was poured out on the ground in a clean place, and the sack of meal, much lightened, was also returned. They said this was all that was taken. After they had prayed together, they all mounted and proceeded on their way. Late in the evening, when hearing voices of men hallooing, the masters seemed much frightened, and kept still and passed down a steep bank, having traveled about 56 miles. After they had fettered the camels, they took their guns, saw that they were primed and went up to the top of the plain, where they made their slaves follow; there they set up a most tremendous howling, one counterfeiting a tiger, another a lion, and the other a wolf. The next morning after ascending to the plain, a man was seen approaching on a camel, who was recognized as the one that had been plundered. Riley and Savage had noticed their masters bury two small bags, which they had stolen from the strangers the day before. The man came up and accused them of having stolen his goods, and of having deceived him. They protested their innocence, and said he had accused them wrongfully and that they had nothing of his in their possession and, calling upon God as their witness, asked him to search their camels. This seemed to satisfy the stranger and he departed. Sidi Hamet then dug up the bags and said that the man wanted his bags, and showed Riley what he supposed to be

opium and some hollow sticks that he thought were filled with gold.

On the 8th they started early and rode rapidly until about 4 P. M., when they came in sight of a large drove of camels feeding. Their owners asked Sidi Hamet and his men to remain with them for the night. They here bought a kid and killed and dressed it. The entrails, which were not cleansed, were given to Riley and his companions, but they could not wait till they were thoroughly cooked, so ate them half raw. They gave them a good drink of water, and at midnight, the usual time for Arabs to take their refreshments, they brought Riley a bowl containing about four or five pounds of hasty pudding with a hole in the middle, in which was poured a pint or more of good sweet milk.

On the 9th they set out early and traveled about 10 hours, at the rate of four miles an hour. They came to a well where a company of men were watering their camels. They traveled about 40 miles this day. As soon as daylight came on the 10th, they started and traveled until after dark, making about 45 miles.

On the 11th they set off early and traveled about 70 miles that day. On the 12th they traveled about all day and came to where there was a flock of goats. Sidi Hamet caught four of them and tied them until he could settle for them. He told the owners that he had left a good camel up on the plain that he would give for the goats. He had left a camel, but not a good one, as it was lame and had given out. But it was that or nothing so the trade was consummated. They killed one of the goats and gave the entrails and a small piece of meat to the slaves, who were allowed to drink some of the broth in which the entrails were cooked.

On the 14th they traveled along the seashore about 20 miles and stopped with a family of Arabs. The man's name was Hassar

and his wife's was Tamar. She said that she had at one time saved the lives of some Spaniards that were shipwrecked on the coast, and that she had gone to Langarote (one of the Canary Islands) for some goods the captain had promised her father. Her father had kept three of the crew as hostages until her return.

On October 15th Hassar and his family struck their tents and traveled all that day with Sidi Hamet until night. On the 16th they started early and Sidi Hamet told Riley that there were many robbers and bad men that would endeavor to seize them and carry them off. They only traveled 15 miles before sunset. As night came on, their masters mounted Savage, Clark and Burns on camels and drove them forward at a great rate, having their guns with them. Riley and Horace, who were on foot, could not at times keep up, and one of their masters always staid with them and hurried them on in this manner. They at length descended without making any noise into a valley full of high drifts of sand. All the women and children at this time were running on foot. Riley and Horace were placed on the camels and Clark and Savage were made to walk. Soon after Clark came running up and said that Savage had fainted and they were beating him. Riley slipped off his camel and ran back to where Seid was beating Savage's apparently lifeless body, while Hassar, who had caught him by the beard with one hand and in the other held a scimitar, was in the act of cutting his throat. Riley seized Hassar and jerked him away, and caught Savage's body in his arms and called for water. Hassar would have run Riley through, but Sidi Hamet prevented him. Sidi Hamet ordered the camel brought near and gave Savage some water. When he revived, this Arab shed tears and then put him and Clark on one camel, one to steady the other. Sidi Hamet desired Riley to get on with

Horace, saying with a sneer, "The English are good for nothing; you can see our women and children can walk and run."

On the 17th, they started early, still on the inclined plain, between the first and second bank of the sea. The black tops of high mountains appeared in the east. The ground was beaten with good camel paths. Towards night they came to water and grass, and later to where the ground was cultivated and where there was a heap of barley straw. Here the masters gave the men some putrid remains of a goat, that had hung on the neck of a camel for four days. To the famished men this was delicious.

On the 19th they pursued their journey, all on foot, except Burns, who was too weak to walk. Suddenly about 2 o'clock a beautiful stream appeared to view, the banks covered with bushes and grass, while on the other side were cows, asses and sheep feeding.

They rested here on the 20th. While they remained here, an old man that could speak some Spanish questioned Riley about his country, and his friends in Swearah. He said he knew all the consuls, giving their names—Renshaw, Josef, Estevan and Caste. He said he was going to Swearah and would carry a letter for Riley if his master would let him write. Riley informed him that his friends name was Renshaw, guessing that he was the English consul.

Here the company was divided and Sidi Hamet and his men climbed a high mountain. Riley was satisfied that he did so for fear he would be followed and robbed of his slaves.

On October 22nd they started and marched along the seashore. As they were proceeding along a narrow strip of beach, four armed men sprang out from behind a jutting rock to intercept their march. Sidi Hamet and Seid unsheathed their guns and started to meet them,

although only two to four. The enemy stood in line across the beach. Sidi Hamet, holding his gun ready to fire, demanded if it was peace and extended his hand to receive that of the fellow. Sidi Hamet gave him his right hand, suspecting no treachery. But the fellow grasped it fast and would have shot him had not, at this juncture, two of Hassar's men come running like the wind, each of them with a double-barreled gun in his hand ready to fire. The robbers saw them turn the point, and the one that held Sidi Hamet's hand dropped it, saying with a loud laugh that he only did it to frighten him. This excuse was accepted for want of force sufficient to resent it. They proceeded on their way, but these fellows, who were stout and active, hovered around the slaves, endeavoring to separate them from their masters in hopes of seizing on them as their own. Sidi Hamet, observing this, ordered the slaves to keep close to the camel's heels, while he and his company, now strong though none of them had scimitars, kept between the robbers and the slaves. When they found that Sidi Hamet's party were too vigilant for them, the robbers left off going along the beach. After ascending the bank that night, Sidi Hamet told Riley that they would have killed him and Seid and have taken the slaves away where they would never have gotten to see their wives.

That night Seid brought in four large fish. Sidi Hamet asked Riley if they were good to eat. Riley said they were. He then told Riley to take them but to be careful and not choke on the bones. They had traveled about 40 miles this day. They now passed several small towns walled in with stones laid in mortar. These towns were generally protected on the outside with dry thorn bushes and their stock was driven within the walls at night. In the afternoon a company of 10 men, all armed

and on horseback, rode toward the party on the plains, making a loud jingling noise with their spurs against their stirrups, and crying out "Hah! Hah! Hah!"

Our party consisted of Sidi Hamet, Seid, two of Hassar's men, Abdallah and one stranger who had joined them that day, all being armed with double-barreled muskets and some scimitars. They all sprang from their camels, unsheathed their guns and primed them anew, and stationed themselves in front of their property in line ready for action. The horsemen rode up within five yards of Sidi Hamet's men at full speed and then stopped their horses short. The chief of the horsemen then demanded, in a loud imperious manner, who they were? Where they came from? If they knew Sidi Ishem? What countrymen their slaves were? And where they found them? Sidi Hamet replied to all their questions in a sharp, quick manner, as briefly as possible, and in his turn demanded, "Who are you? Where do you come from? And what right have you to ride up to me in such a manner and stop me and my slaves on the road?" A loud dispute was kept up on both sides for half an hour, when it closed and the party were allowed to proceed. The others rode to the south.

On the 23rd they were awakened without any noise being made, two hours before daylight and went on their way. Riley and his men suspected that some roguery was going on, and had not traveled for more than two leagues when just at the dawn of day they heard the sound of horses' feet coming up at full speed behind them. The clanking of their arms and spurs made a great noise. The masters and their men stripped the covers from their guns and gave them to Riley to carry. The horsemen, four in number, came up by this time and, passing Sidi Hamet's party a short distance on

the right, rode around the camels and stopped them. Sidi's men were five in number, four of them with double-barreled guns. Bidding Riley to keep as close to them as possible with the men, they ran at their greatest speed to the encounter, whilst Riley and his men followed after as close as they could, fearing to be separated from them and falling into the hands of the banditti. The two parties approached each other with loud cries, the voices of those on horseback sounding like trumpets, and those of the masters being but little lower, so that the mountain rang again with the sound. The slaves expected every moment the slaughter would commence. Each one attempted to yell louder than his opponent. Riley had approached near his master and could distinctly hear one of the horsemen accuse Sidi Hamet of a breach of hospitality and reproach him in the most opprobrious terms for some wrong, which he alleged had been done him. The others were at the same time wrangling with the other men. This war of words having subsided a little, one of them asked Sidi Hamet what his name was and after considerable delay on account of punctillos (each insisting that the other should tell his first) Sidi Hamet gave his, and the other then said that his was Ali Mohammed. Then ensued a long dispute between them, each charging the other with perfidy. During this interval and as daylight appeared, the opposing party were being strengthened by being joined by many armed and unarmed men running on foot. According as their opponents increased in force the members of Sidi Hamet's party lowered their voices, but the clamor was still so loud that Riley could understand nothing of what was said. The Arab that had joined the company with two camels, the day before, had not set out with the party this morning, but he now came running

up. Sidi had driven off his camels and this was the cause of the uproar that was raging. The purloined camels were then in the drove, and while the others were quarreling he ran around and drove them back. When the masters could not keep what they feloniously had taken, they began to lower their voices. At length Sidi Hamet spoke to Ali Mohammed in a low tone of voice and asked him to ride apart from the others with him. Sidi Hamet now told Ali that his party had no intention of driving off any camels except their own, and the mistake had been occasioned by the darkness. He then protested that he was incapable of committing an unworthy action, that he abhorred a thief and that, as he was entirely innocent of intentionally driving off the man's camels, he would not acknowledge that he had done wrong designedly. He would sell his life as dearly as possible in maintaining his character. Ali Mohammed appeared satisfied with this, and said to him, "I am *el Rias* (the chief), and am your friend because you are a brave man." So making Sidi Hamet's excuse to those around him, and the lost camels being recovered, they were allowed to pursue their journey. Hassar's men with their camels and Abdallah with his camel now filed off to the left, leaving only the original party.

The mortifying result of the morning had made Seid very ill-natured. He had claimed Horace from the beginning as his slave, and Savage also belonged to him. He had always doubted Riley's word to his brother, and would not believe that a miserable creature like Riley could find a friend to advance money to ransom them, although he, Hassar and all the company had a high opinion of Riley's courage since he had put his own life in jeopardy to save Savage's life. Seid had endeavored to sell his slaves at every place they came to after leaving the desert. Hassar as well as others

had taken a particular fancy to Horace, and had offered a large sum for him, in camels and other merchandise, but the interference of Sidi Hamet, who had sworn that Horace should not be separated from Riley, and aided by Riley's entreaties and tears whenever he heard it suggested, had saved him thus far. Seid now determined to take his slaves and make the most of them. When they stopped the preceding night, the Arabs strove hard to get possession of Horace. Seid had made a bargain to sell Horace in the morning, but was dissuaded by his brother. Sidi Hamet was riding on his big camel before the rest, when Seid caught hold of Savage and Horace and stopped them. It was now that Sidi Hamet's wrath was kindled. He leaped from his camel and, darting like lightning up to Seid, laid hold of him and disengaged Savage and Horace from his grasp. They clinched each other like lions and with fury in their looks strove to throw each other to the ground. Seid was the largest and the stoutest man. They writhed and twisted in every shape until they fell to the ground, but Sidi Hamet was underneath. Fire seemed to flash from their eyes. They writhed and twisted until they finally got to their feet. Each grasped his gun at the same moment, retired a few paces, tore from it the cloth and presented it at the others breast with dreadful fury. Sidi Hamet fired both barrels of his gun in the air. Now he threw it on the ground, bared his breast and advanced with a firm step toward Seid and said, "I am unarmed; now fire." Seid now hesitated. Sidi Hamet, finding his brother's mind wavering, ran to Horace and sent him to Riley, telling his brother he could have Clark in his stead, but Seid would not consent, whereupon he added Burns, which was two for one. Seid had made Savage sit down and had placed one of his feet on him, while his brother ordered Horace and Riley to

go first to the south and then to the east, following the camels and then bade Savage to follow, but Seid presented his gun and told Savage that if he attempted to go he would blow his brains out. Sidi Hamet told him to run and he obeyed. When they came near, they were ordered to stop, and the two brothers sat on the ground and figured in the sand with their fingers. Clark and Burns were again offered for Horace, but Seid would not consent. He would keep the slave he had bought. "You shall not separate Horace from his father; I have sworn it." "Then I will destroy him," exclaimed Seid furiously; springing up, he seized Horace by the breast and dashed him to the ground with all his might. The force of the blow beat the breath out of his body and he lay apparently dead. Seid's passion began to subside a little and Sidi Hamet, going to Horace, took him by the hand, raised him up on his seat and his breath returned and he revived. Sidi Hamet was melted to tears at the sight, and in a tender voice he said to Horace, "Go to Riley." The brothers then seated themselves on the ground to discuss their affairs, when some strangers came in sight, which reminded them that it would require their united force to defend themselves and their property, and they decided to resort to some village for further discussion. Sidi Hamet would not trust himself with his brother alone, so he hired a stout young fellow to go along, by the name of Bo Mohammed.

Sidi Hamet called Riley to him and said that he should set out in the morning for Swearah in company with their host, Sidi Mohammed, where he hoped to arrive in three days, as he would ride on a mule and push on, night and day; and that Riley must write a letter to his friend which he would carry. "If your friend will fulfill your engagements and pay the money for you and your men, you shall

be free. If not, you must die for having deceived me, and your men shall be sold into slavery for what they will bring."

"I have fought for you," he added, "suffered hunger and thirst and fatigue to restore you to your family for I believe God is with you. I have paid away all my money on your word alone. Seid and Bo Mohammed will guard you during my absence."

This night was spent in great anxiety by Riley, as he knew no one to whom to write; he knew no one in Madagore, yet he must take his chance. He remembered his remarkable dream. It had literally come to pass so far; why should he doubt its whole accomplishment: yet he could not rest. The next morning Sidi Hamet said, "Come Riley, write a letter," giving him a scrap of paper as wide as his hand and about eight inches long. Riley begged hard to be taken along, but he would not consent. Riley wrote the following letter:

SIR—The brig "Commerce" from Gibraltar for America was wrecked on Cape Bagdose on the 28th of August last. Myself and four of my crew are nearly naked in barbarian slavery. I conjure you by all the ties that bind man to man, by those of kindred, blood and everything you hold most dear, and by as much as liberty is dearer than life, to advance the money required for our redemption, which is nine hundred and twenty dollars and two double-barrelled guns. I can draw for any amount the moment I am at liberty—on Batard, Sampson & Sharp, London; Cooper & Benson, Liverpool; Munroe & Burton, Lisbon; or on Horatio Sprague, Gibraltar. Should you not believe me, my life must instantly pay the forfeit. I have a wife and five helpless children to deplore my death. My companions are Aaron R. Savage, Horace Savage, James Clark and Thomas Burns. I left six more in slavery on the desert. My present master, Sidi Hamet, will hand you this and tell you where we are. He is a worthy man. Worn down to the bones by the most dreadful of all sufferings, naked and a slave, I implore your pity, and trust that such distress will not be suffered to plead in vain. For God's sake send an interpreter and a guard, if that is possible. I speak French and Spanish.

JAMES RILEY

Late Master and Supercargo of the Brig "Commerce."

After Sidi Hamet had left for Swearah, Riley spent the time in fear and trembling. He had pledged his word that if the money was not forthcoming for his ransom, he was to have his throat cut, and the rest of the crew sold for what they would bring; and as he did not know a person in Swearah, he had every reason to fear.

On the sixth day after Sidi Hamet's absence, a man arrived that Seid recognized and called Sheik Ali (Ali, the chief). In his deportment he was grave and dignified. He raised his voice terribly on occasions, and spoke in tones almost of thunder, yet when he wished to please, it trilled on the ear like softest music. This chief was often conversing in a low tone of voice with Seid respecting Riley and his men. He said that he didn't doubt but that Riley's friends would raise any amount of money for his ransom and he was sorry that he had not met Sidi Hamet before he started for Swearah. He questioned Riley as to his friends, family, property, etc. He also wished to know the story of the shipwreck and was very curious to find out how much money and other property fell into the hands of the people that first met them. He examined their bodies and finding a cross in India ink on Clark's arm, he pronounced him a Spaniard, and said he should not be ransomed but go to the mountains and work for him.

On the seventh day after Sidi Hamet's absence, one of the most fierce and ill-looking men they had ever seen appeared and hailed Seid by name, and demanded that he open the gate directly. Seid demanded to know his name, he replied, "Ullah Omar," that he came from Swearah and had met near that place Sidi Hamet, who requested him to call and tell Seid where he was and that God had prospered his journey so far. The gate was now opened and he entered. He was a powerful man and heav-

ily armed. After shaking hands all around and hearing that Riley was captain, he addressed him, and told him that he had seen his friend within one day's ride of Swearah. That he no doubt would be with them tomorrow and hoped that Riley's friend in Swearah or Magadore would be as true to Riley as Sidi Hamet was. After they had eaten and washed together, and prayed together, Ullah Omar took his leave. During the whole time they remained here, their keepers washed their whole bodies twice a day, at noon and evening, and their hands before and after eating.

Riley was now in a fever of excitement to know what his fate was to be, dreading yet anxious to know what it would be. His remarkable dream was all that kept him up, as it had all transpired so far as he had dreamed. The eighth day passed slowly, but in the evening a Moor came to the part of the yard where they were and called out in English, "How-de-do Captain." Riley eagerly seized his hand and begged to know what his doom was, and if Sidi Hamet had come back. He then spoke in Spanish and told Riley that he came from Magadore, that Riley's letter had been received by one of the best of men, an Englishman, who was his friend and had shed tears on reading the letter. That the Englishman had paid the money to Sidi Hamet immediately, and had sent him (the Moor) off immediately, without giving a moment's time to take leave of his wife, and that he had been on his mule ever since, traveling night and day as fast as possible. At this moment, the Moor handed Riley the following letter.

MAGADORE, October 28th, 1875

I have this moment received your two notes by Sidi Hamet, the contents of which I hope you will perfectly assured have called forth my most ready reply for your sufferings and those of your companions in captivity.

By a Gibraltar paper I discovered, under the ar-

rivals from the 5th to the 11th of August, the name of your vessel, and that she was American, from which I conclude both you and your crew must be subjects of the United States. Had it not been for this paper, some delay would have occurred as your paper does not state to what nation you belong. I congratulate you most sincerely on the good fortune you and your fellow sufferers have met, by being in the hands of a man who seems to be guided by some degree of commiseration.

I can in some measure participate in the severe and dangerous suffering and hardships you must have undergone, but, my dear Sir, console yourself, for thanks be to God I hope they will soon have a happy issue; for which purpose I devoutly pray the great Dispenser of all things will give you and your unfortunate companions health and strength once more to visit your native land.

This letter will be delivered to you by Rais-bel-Cossin, in whom you may place the fullest confidence. He speaks Spanish and has directions to pay attention to your orders and render you every care your severe misfortunes may require. Be pleased to write me immediately, stating every particular relating to yourself, your crew and vessel, as I have given orders to the Moor to forward it to me without delay. I have agreed to pay the sum of nine hundred and twenty hard dollars to Sidi Hamet on your safe arrival in this town with your fellow-sufferers. He remains as a kind of a hostage for your safe appearance.

I have been induced to place implicit confidence in your word, and the respectable references you have given, confident that those gentlemen or yourself will readily reimburse me the whole of the expense that may be incurred in obtaining your redemption. I have the most sincere pleasure in acquainting you that you will be at liberty to commence your journey for this town on the receipt of this letter. And make what stages you please on the road, as I do not advise you in the eagerness of all you must feel to run into danger by over-exertion and fatigue. I would therefore recommend the greatest precaution on this point. I have sent, under charge of Rais-bel-Cossin, shoes and cloaks, which I have no doubt you will find very useful in preserving you from the rain and cold on the road.

I have also forwarded you some provisions and spirits that you may enjoy a foretaste of returning liberty.

I beg to recommend the greatest secrecy of your circumstances until your arrival here, for should the Moors suppose you able to pay more they would throw obstacles in the way and thereby much retard your redemption.

I shall send off an express to-morrow to the United

States' Consul General, at Tangiers, and a letter to Horatio Sprague of Gibraltar, informing them of your loss and of the favorable hopes I entertain of your immediate release. I have appointed with Rais-bel-Cossin on your arrival at a short distance of Magadore to wait at a garden of a friend of mine and send me notice of the same, when I shall immediately set out to meet you. I hope there is no occasion for me to say how truly I commiserate you and enter into all your misfortunes. When God grants me the pleasure to embrace you, it will be to me a day of great rejoicing.

I hope you will assure every one with you with my truest regard, and with sentiments embittered by the thoughts of the miseries you have undergone. But with the most sanguine hope of a happy end to all your suffering, I subscribe myself with the greatest esteem, my dear Sir,

Your friend,
WILLIAM WILLSHIRE.

After reading and fully comprehending the full import of such a letter from a total stranger, of whose name they had not even heard, they were melted to tears of rejoicing.

Amidst these heart-rending sensations, was heard the voice of Sheik Ali in thundering tones storming most furiously that Sidi Hamet had given up Riley and his companions for so paltry a sum. He said that Sidi Hamet must be a fool and a mad man to put himself in the power of a villainous Christian, who would undoubtedly murder him and take back his money, so soon as they should arrive in Swearah.

The Moor now spoke up and said that he had bought Riley with his own money, paid to Sidi Hamet, before he left Swearah, and that Sidi Hamet had voluntarily stayed at Swearah as hostage for his (Rais-bel-Cossin) safety as well as for the safe delivery of the slaves. "We are of the same religion" added Rias "and owe these Christian dogs nothing; but we have an undoubted right to make merchandise of them and make them carry our burdens like camels. That fellow (pointing to Riley) calls himself captain of a vessel. He has deceived his master and you, for he was nothing more

than the cook on board, and the captain has long been dead." This the Sheik would not believe. "If it was so, how could he write a note to induce a stranger to pay so much money for him and his men. It was only a short one and the writer must be a man of much consequence, as well as knowledge. I fear you have leagued with a Christian against Sidi Hamet, first to rob him and then to take his life." Rais-bel-Cossin retorted, "No, by Allah! I am incapable of such an act of treachery." He told the Sheik that Riley was indeed only a cook, but being a stout fellow was able to endure fatigue better than the others. He said that if he would give them paper he would see that they could write even better than Riley.

This controversy continued a long time. But Rais-bel-Cossin was a man of great courage, knowledge and eloquence and displayed great address in checking the avaricious calculations of the Sheik in insisting upon Riley not being captain, and thus depreciating his value as a slave. It being late, Sidi Mohammed conducted the whole company into an apartment, that had served from its appearance as a stable for mules. They loudly insisted that they should lodge in the same place where they had been confined before, but Rais-bel-Cossin would not consent and declared that his slaves should stay by his side both day and night. They had cost him a great deal of money and he was determined not to lose them. Thus they were put into comfortable quarters, and some hard biscuit, boiled tongue and some rum being given them, and their cloaks produced, they were soon comfortable for the night.

Rais-bel-Cossin, Seid, Bo Mohammed, and Sheik Ali lay on a platform slightly raised from the ground. Early in the morning Rais-bel-Cossin desired Riley to make tea. So he took out the kettle, had it filled with water, made a fire and soon had the tea ready for drinking.

The Moor directed Riley to pour a cup of tea for each of them, which he made thick with sugar. None of the people had ever seen a teacup or tasted tea. Riley waited on them until they had finished, when Rais-bel-Cossin turned to Sheik Ali and said, "I told you before that Riley was the cook, and now you see with your own eyes that he is the only one that can wait on us."

All things being soon packed and loaded on mules, they started. The company consisted of Sheik Ali, Sidi Mohammed, Seid their master, Bo Mohammed and Rais-bel-Cossin, all well-armed. After giving Rais-bel-Cossin a brief history of the shipwreck trials and suffering, at his request, the Moore raised his eyes toward Heaven and said, in Spanish, "Praised be God the most high and holy for his goodness," and added, "You are the first Christians passing the Great Desert for such a distance. Sidi Hamet admired your conduct, courage and intelligence." Riley now inquired who Sheik Ali was, and why he was going on in company and said he much feared him. Rais-bel-Cossin informed him that all he knew about him he had learned from Sidi Mohammed, which was that he was the chief of a great and powerful tribe of Arabs. That Sidi Hamet had married his daughter but had since been at war with him; that his father-in-law had destroyed Sidi Hamet's town, taking back his daughter, but afterward restored her after making peace. He said that he feared it was for no good that he was going along, but that God would turn their evil machinations to their good. They passed several ruins, where the walls had been battered down with a battering ram, and were finally stopped by Sheik Ali at a town which was walled and had a heavy gate that was shut at night and barred by heavy timbers, and a guard set on the wall.

All this day Sheik Ali had been lost in

reverie; he would seldom speak and when he did it was in a low tone to Seid, and Riley strongly suspected that some mischief was brewing.

On the 30th of October they made an early start, and were traveling rapidly over a plain, that seemed to be cultivated and was in full view of the Atlas Mountains, from which chilling blasts swept over the plain. Sheik Ali was very attentive to Riley all the morning, and had, in imitation of Rais-bel-Cossin, called him "Captain," and had endeavored to convince him that he had better go with him to the mountains, southward, where he had large possessions; that he would give him one of his daughters for a wife, and make him chief in his nation. He had stopped the whole company two or three times to talk over his own affairs and it appeared that Seid was leagued with him and that they were bent on doing Riley and his men some mischief. They had traveled about 50 miles and were both tired and hungry when they approached the gate of a city. Seid and Sheik Ali entered and soon Sidi Mohammed and Rais-bel-Cossin were also invited in, leaving Riley and his men outside in charge of Bo Mohammed (who stood in Sidi Hamet's place) and two others. Burns and Clark were so far exhausted that they could not sit up, and Riley, Horace and Savage were in so weak a state that Riley very much feared they would not be able to keep on for the remainder of the day.

About this time dark clouds came up and a heavy downpour of rain ensued. They were then allowed to enter under the gateway for shelter. Riley for a long time now looked for Rais-bel-Cossin to come out and began to fear some disaster or treachery on the part of Sheik Ali, whose loud voice they could hear roaring within. This tremendous clamor between the Sheik and the others continued about two hours when Rais-bel-Cossin made his appearance, es-

corted by a number of men. His intelligent countenance bespoke fear, grief and indignation. He called Riley aside from his companions and told him that Sheik Ali was the intimate friend of Muley Ibrahim, the king or governor of the city and that Sheik Ali had claimed Riley and his men as his property, alleging that Sidi Hamet owed him a large amount of money. That as Sidi Hamet was now held as a hostage or slave to a Christian in Swearah, he insisted that they should not proceed one step farther until 1,500 dollars were produced, together with Sidi Hamet, the husband of his daughter, and that in conjunction with Seid he had contrived to stop them here by the power of the Prince.

Rais-bel-Cossin further informed Riley that he had argued the matter every way but all to no purpose; that he had promised the money required, 600 dollars as soon as they should reach Santa Cruz in the Emperor's dominions and that he would have the Prince and the Sheik go along and receive it there, and there await for the return of Sidi Hamet. "But they will not hear to me, and I must set off immediately to carry this discouraging news to Mr. Willshire, leaving you here until my return in three days." He was about to mount his mule, when Sidi Mohammed, who went in the first place with Sidi Hamet to Swearah, came near him and said: "Rais, Muley Ibrahim and Sheik Ali have determined you shall not go to Swearah; they fear you will cause war to break out between them and the Sultan." Sidi Mohammed, observing Riley in tears, took him by the hand and said, "Don't be cast down, Riley, I will go to Swearah and carry a letter from Rais and from you to Mr. Willshire, and if he wants a hostage I will stay. I have two wives, and seven children, and houses and lands, and herds of cattle. I will be a more valuable hostage than Sidi Hamet. He is your friend, and

will come immediately and relieve you." Rais now joined Sheik Ali and the Prince, who with many attendants were seated on the ground in a circle outside the city gate. Here they debated the matter over again. Rais insisted they were his slaves; that neither the Prince nor the Sheik had a right to detain what he had bought with his own money, much less to stop him like a criminal; that it was contrary to their religion (which made them all brothers) to commit such an outrage on hospitality. Sheik Ali on the other hand claimed that Sidi Hamet and Seid owed him money to a large amount, that the slaves were their joint property and that he had an undoubted right to detain them and carry the slaves off to his own dominion to his own tribe, and there keep them until Sidi Hamet should return and pay the debt. Rais insisted that he had paid his money and had nothing to do with Sheik Ali's claim. However, after extolling the justice and virtue of the prince to the highest degree, they both agreed to leave it to Muley Ibrahim to decide what should be done. Muley Ibrahim now asked Sidi Mohammed and Bo Mohammed, what they knew concerning the business. They gave testimony in favor of Rais-bel-Cossin, previous claim. Thus prepared, Muley Ibrahim said: "You, Sheik Ali, my old friend, and Rais-bel-Cossin, both of you claim these five Christian slaves as your property and each of you has some reason on his side, yet as it is not in my power to decide whose claim is the best founded I am resolved with a strict regard to justice and without going into further evidence to keep the slaves in my own city, carefully guarded until messengers can be sent to Swearah, who shall bring down Sidi Hamet, when you three being confronted may settle your claims as shall be found most consistent with justice."

He then proposed that Rais should remain

with him like a friend and have nothing to fear. This plan was agreed to by all parties and they shook hands upon it like friends.

This done, the slaves were conducted into the city and into a house adjoining where the prince lived, and sentinels with muskets were placed at the door and at the gate.

Muley Ibrahim, the Sheik and Rais were conversing the whole night. In the morning of the 2nd of November, Rais furnished Riley with a pen, ink and paper, and told him to write to Mr. Willshire, stating their present situation as near as he could. At an early hour Seid, Sidi Mohammed and Bo Mohammed set out for Swearah, taking the letters and promising to return as soon as possible. Sheik Ali also soon after left, promising to return in four days. Being now left alone with Rais-bel-Cossin Riley was told by Rais that their detention would be only for a few days, and would be for their benefit, and that he hoped to make a friend of the Prince, in whose power they now were. Riley told him that he almost despaired of living to regain his liberty, as he was extremely feeble and would soon perish. "What! said Rais, "dare you distrust the power that God, who has preserved you so long by miracles!" Rais then called Muley Ibrahim and had a long conference with him. By the tenor of the conversation they could understand that Rais was flattering him highly, but in a delicate way. He asked in a very delicate way about the Prince's wives: understanding he had only one, he inquired if she had any children and was answered that she had none. He next wanted to know if she had any tea or sugar, and was answered in the negative. Rais now managed to get a little wood and some water and Riley made a fire and boiled some coffee—this was done by the help of a small negro girl, who was a slave to Muley Ibrahim and during the absence of the Prince. Rais by giving

the girl a small lump of sugar persuaded her to carry a large lump to her mistress and also a cup of coffee, thick with sugar. The girl returned and told Rais that her mistress was much obliged to him and would keep the cup and saucer and that she had never seen one before. She begged to know what she could do to serve him. Rais sent back word that she could serve him best by trying to make the Prince his friend. About an hour after, the Prince came in and asked Rais what he had been doing with his wife, saying at the same time, "You had no need of gaining my friendship through her, for you had it already." He asked Rais to accompany him to the mosque, and when they returned about two hours later, it was to be seen that all was right between them, and that he had all the liberty he required. In the evening the Prince came and prayed with Rais. After the Prince retired, Rais told Riley that he had sent off a rich man, an old acquaintance of his, for money to pay Sheik Ali his demand. "But," said Rais, "God made Muley Ibrahim my friend, and he has given his princely word to protect both me and my slaves, and if force is necessary will provide sufficient escort to the Emperor's dominion. And he will provide fowls and eggs for you in the morning, and tell your shipmates that they have nothing to fear."

The next morning, November 3rd, Muley Ibrahim brought some salt and some eggs which were cooked for breakfast, and gave Rais half a dozen fowls. And Rais, taking the fowls wings in his left hand and turning his face toward the east, after saying "Bismillah" ("In the name of the Most Holy God"), cut their throats and Riley and his men dressed and cooked them after their own fashion. The Prince and Rais had a bowl of soup and some of the fowl, and the Prince insisted on Riley eating out of the same dish with him.

To the circumstances of this stoppage alone and the friendship of the Prince and his protection, Riley attributed under Providence the salvation of their lives. On the second day of their detention, the old man Rais-bel-Cossin had written to for assistance came to see him, after riding all night to be with Rais in time. The old man had two mules, one laden with provisions, and said he had brought \$500 for his friend's use, as he had been requested. But Rais had now become the friend of Muley Ibrahim and did not need the money. The old man said that if Rais would say the word he would go and collect his friends and take the slaves of Rais by force of arms, in spite of Sheik Ali's opposition and would carry the slaves safe to Santa Cruz. But as Muley Ibrahim had given his word, on which Rais said he could depend, to see them safe to Santa Cruz, and to use all the force and influence that was necessary, the old man returned home. Rais by making a present to a pious man of great influence prevailed upon him to use his influence with the Sheik to allow the slaves to be removed to Santa Cruz, stating that Sidi Ishem whom the Sheik knew and feared, would set out from his city the next day with a force, in order to seize upon the slaves whom he had tried so hard to purchase, and if they were not in the Emperor's dominion before he came, another day would place them in Sidi Ishem's hands and the Sheik would not only lose the slaves, but get into a war with that powerful chief. When the Sheik returned to the prison, in which the slaves were kept, Rais contrived to find out what had passed between the Shariff and the Sheik by meeting the Shariff at the gate as had been arranged.

Sheik Ali in the meantime was unfolding his plan to Muley Ibrahim and trying to gain the latter's consent to let the slaves be carried off by night by surprise, but the Prince would

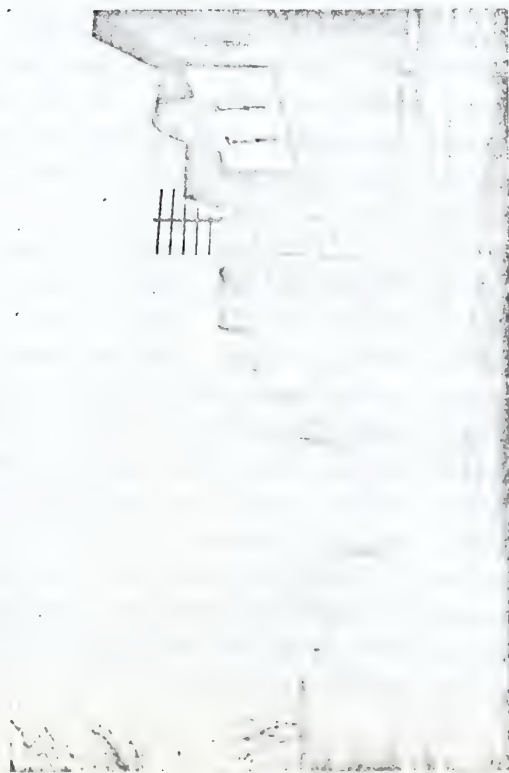
not consent. They were now within his walls, and he had given his word that they should not be removed until the disputed right of property was settled by all parties face to face. This he should insist on. Finding that his plan would not work and fearing Sidi Ishem's arrival, he addressed Rais-bel-Cossin and told him in a flattering way that he had found him to be an honorable man, and wished to be his friend; that he did not doubt Rais' word since he knew his character and would therefore consent to go on with the slaves the next morning as far as Santa Cruz, where they would await the arrival of Sidi Hamet, and settle the right of property amicably. Rais, as crafty as the Sheik, being in the whole secret, was careful not to evince any desire to go on and told the Sheik that he had stopped him and his Christian slaves, in the first place, contrary to the laws of justice and hospitality, and that as he had kept them so long a time he had no wish to remove them at this time, but would wait with patience the arrival of Sidi Hamet, who would convince the Sheik that he had done wrong in detaining them. At last he suffered himself to be persuaded by the united voices of Sheik Ali and Muley Ibrahim, but on the express condition that they were to be escorted to Santa Cruz by the Prince, who was a party to the whole secret. Rais-bel-Ibrahim had previously agreed to accompany them with 200 horsemen as a guard on the road in order to prevent any treachery on the part of Sheik Ali, who might already have troops stationed along the route to seize and carry off the slaves to the mountains.

On the morning of the 4th of November, the slaves being placed on camels which were saddled much better than any that had hitherto been furnished, they set off from Stuka, accompanied by Rais-bel-Cossin, Muley Ibrahim

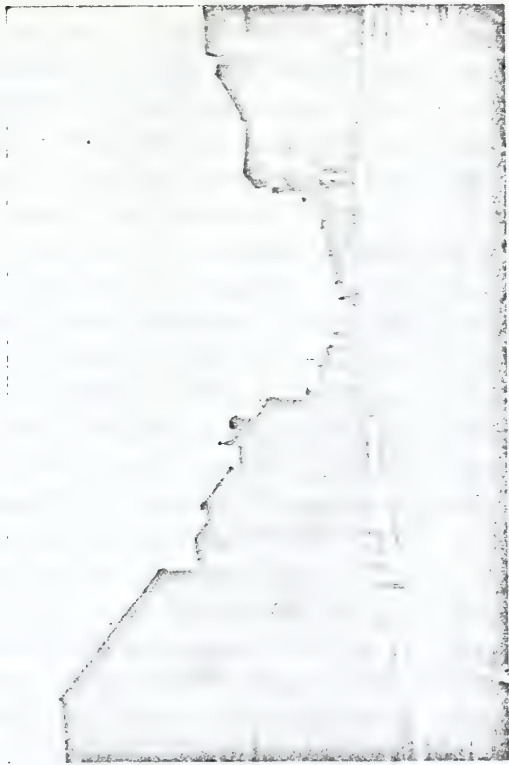
and his two servants, and Sheik Ali with his attendant. They continued on until about noon when Santa Cruz was pointed out. It is situated on the summit of a high mountain, and can be seen a great distance. When they approached within about two miles of Santa Cruz, the sun had not set and Rais informed Riley that he did not want to enter the lower town until dark, and did not mean to go near the fortress if he could help, for fear of insult and detention. A little while after sunset, they entered the lower town or port as it was called. The street was filled with Moors, men and boys, who saluted the slaves by spitting on them, pelting them with stones and sticks, and addressing them with foul epithets, but some of the old men now and then uttered, "How de do Christians," in broken English or Spanish. They were conducted through the street to the northern part of the town.

After supper Rais bel Cossin told Riley to keep a good lookout, that he should watch the motions of Sheik Ali, who he feared was still plotting against the liberty of the slaves. Riley informed his companions that they were now in the dominions of the Emperor of Morocco, and would be liberated in a very few days. He exhorted them to bear up and exert all their remaining strength in order to reach Swearah (or Magadore).

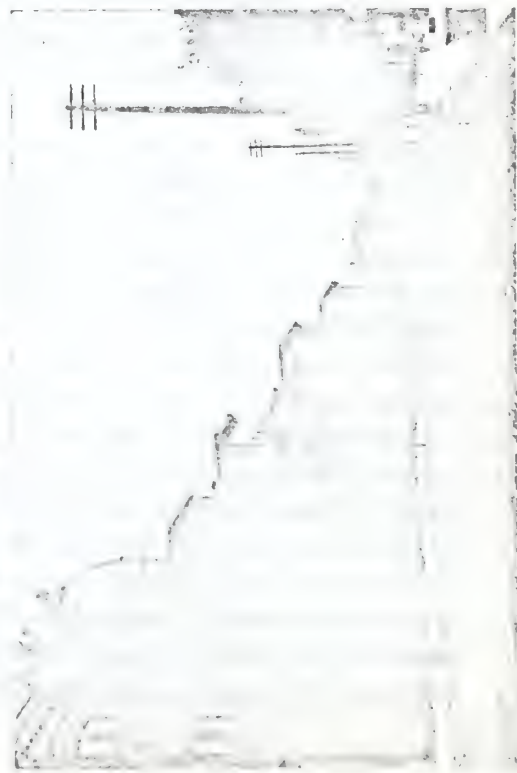
Soon after midnight Rais appeared and, finding Riley awake, aroused the owners of the camels and requested them to go on speedily, and then told Riley that Sheik Ali had stolen off quietly and visited the governor who had agreed on his representations to take the slaves into custody in the morning at daybreak, and assist in extorting the money the Sheik demanded, or connive at the slaves being stolen and carried back by Sheik Ali's men to Suse. "I have



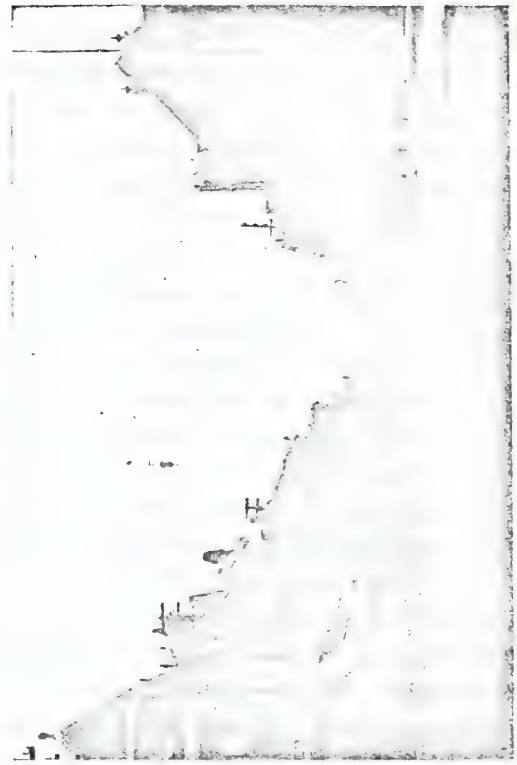
A BUSINESS STREET IN WILLSHIRE



A BUSINESS STREET IN OHIO CITY



MAIN STREET, VAN WERT, Looking West from Market Street



MAIN STREET, DELPHOS, Looking North

learned this from an old friend of mine, that I had commissioned to watch the Sheik," said Rais. "Awaken your shipmates; you must depart this instant; the drivers know the road; it is very rocky; you must tell your men to hold on as tight as possible and remember if you are four leagues from this town before daylight your liberty is secured; if not, you will be again the most miserable slaves. Encourage your men to their utmost exertions. I will join you as soon as possible." The camels being ready, the slaves were put on them and proceeded up the rocky slope in profound silence, although as rapidly as possible. Sleep seemed to literally seal the eyes of the Moors in the lower town and batteries that they passed. They had been hurrying on as fast as possible for about two hours, and had gained the distance of probably three leagues from Santa Cruz, when their ears were struck with the clinking sound of iron against the stones, which announced the approach of horsemen. Though it was still dark, they discovered close by them on the right a considerable number of men riding on mules and passing the other way. Not a word was uttered on either side, nor could the faces of any be distinguished, though they were not more than three or four rods apart. A thought darting across Riley's mind suggested to them that it was their old master. Riley called out "Sidi Hamet," and was quickly answered, "Ascoon Riley," ("Who is it, Riley"). The whole company stopped immediately and the next moment Riley was kissing the hand of his old master, Sidi Hamet. Seid, Sidi Mohammed and Bo Mohammed were in the party besides three or four Moors, whom their friends had sent down, charged with the money and mules for their ransom and conveyance. The principal Moor, who had charge of the money until the slaves were delivered over according to the wish of Sidi Hamet, spoke

Spanish and questioned Riley and wanted to know where Rais-bel-Cossin was, and Riley told him he was at Santa Cruz. Sidi Hamet wanted to know where Sheik Ali was, whereupon Riley informed him that he was satisfied they had left him in Santa Cruz in company with Rais-bel-Cossin and Muley Ibrahim, and said that Sheik Ali was a bad man and did not fear God. Seid also pretended to be much rejoiced that the slaves were on the road to Magadore, but Riley thought that he could discover that he was trying to play a deep game of artful duplicity. But old Sidi Mohammed was truly glad to find them in the Emperor's dominions.

Having now been absolutely delivered over to Bel Mooden, the Moor who had charge of the money paid it over to Sidi Hamet. Bel Mooden and his charges proceeded toward Swearah and Sidi Hamet went on to Santa Cruz. They had proceeded in this way until about 10 o'clock, when they were joined by Rais-bel-Cossin, Sidi Hamet, Seid and Sidi Mohammed. Riley now inquired what had become of Muley Ibrahim and Sheik Ali, and their attendants, and was told that they had set out for their respective homes. Rais-bel-Cossin told Riley that when his friend told him the Sheik's plan, "I stole away softly and sent you away, without the Sheik's knowledge, but Muley Ibrahim was in the secret and remained with the Sheik to prevent alarm if he should awake in the night." Rais-bel-Cossin said that as soon as Riley and his party were on their way, he laid down across the door so that the Sheik could not pass without awakening him. The Sheik awoke in the morning and, waking Rais-bel-Cossin, told him that they had better call upon the governor, which Rais consented to do, but wanted to see the slaves first so as to have some coffee made. This was assented to, but when they came to where they had slept and found none there nor their drivers, Rais

broke out into a violent passion and accused the Sheik with having robbed him of his slaves during the night, and said he would instantly have him seized and delivered up to the governor, to be punished according to the Moorish law.

Muley Ibrahim, who knew the whole affair, joined with Rais, protesting he could no longer hold friendship with a man who was capable of committing such an act which he considered to be one of the worst breaches of faith that ever disgraced a man of the Sheik's high character. Sheik Ali was thunderstruck by this unexpected event, declared in the most solemn manner that he knew nothing about the slaves' escape, and begged that he might not be delivered up to the governor. He acknowledged he had laid a plan the preceding evening for the detention of the slaves and asked Rais to leave the governor a small present and proceed on the road toward Magadore in the hope of finding his slaves, saying, "They must have gone that way, as the gates were shut on the other side, and there was no possibility of turning back by any other route." The Sheik added, "I am in your power and will go on with you and my friend Muley Ibrahim, without any attendants to prove to you that I am innocent, and that I place greatest confidence in your friendship." Thus they agreed to pursue and endeavor to overtake the supposed runaways. But soon after they had mounted the hills north of Santa Cruz, meeting Sidi Hamet and Seid, with Bel Mooden and Sidi Mohammed, who had the slaves as before mentioned, they stopped and talked over their affairs. Sheik Ali insisted that Sidi Hamet had treated him very ill; that he and Seid owed him 400 dollars, which they were to pay him on their return from the desert, but that they had passed by his lands a three days' journey with their slaves without even calling on him to eat bread. He added he would

have gone with them himself and with an armed force through Sidi Ishem's country to prevent that chief taking their property. "But you wished to cheat me of my money as you did of my daughter," said he, addressing himself to Sidi Hamet. Sidi Hamet, whose voice had been very high before, now lowered his tone and said it was better to settle their disputes than to quarrel. So he acknowledged he owed his father-in-law 360 dollars for goods, but asserted that they were not worth half the money. He would, however, pay the principal but no interest, which would have swelled the debt to more than 500 dollars. The Sheik agreed to accept the principal which was counted out in silver dollars, for he would not take gold doubloons as he did not know their value. He then delivered up Sidi Hamet's bond and said he would return to his tribe.

Rais-bel-Cossin gave Muley Ibrahim a present in cash and they separated, having first vowed everlasting friendship and joined prayers for the success of their several journeys.

Riley and the party traveled on without incident until about 8 o'clock, the third day, when mounting the side of one of the sand hills through which they had been traveling. Swearah broke suddenly on their view, with the island of Magadore forming a harbor, in which was a brig riding at anchor with the English colors flying. "Take courage, Captain," said the good Rais, "there is Swearah," pointing toward the town, "and there is a vessel to carry you to your country and family; if God please, you will soon see the noble Wiltshire, who will relieve you from all your misery. I thank God your sufferings are nearly at an end, and that I have been found worthy to be an instrument in the hands of the Omnipotent to redeem you from slavery." He next returned thanks to the Almighty in Arabic

with all the fevor and devotion so peculiar to Mohammedans and then ejaculated in Spanish, "May it please Almighty God to have preserved the lives of Riley's wife and children."

They now proceeded down the sand hills toward the city, but very slowly. Sidi Hamet had now been missing for some time. He had gone forward to be the first to carry the news to Willshire of the approach of the captives. And now Bel Mooden and Sidi Mohammed left Riley and his men for the same purpose and made their way toward the city. The various emotions that filled the minds of Riley and his men can only be conjectured. Near the western angle of Swearah or Magadore, they were taken off the mules and seated on the green grass near a stream of pure water. They now beheld the American flag floating over a part of the distant city. Willshire, who had been informed of their arrival, had caused the American flag to be hoisted as a signal and had mounted his horse and ridden out of the city and come to where they were seated. As they approached, Rais said in Spanish, "*Alla estom,*" ("There they are"). At the sound they looked up and beheld their deliverer, who had at that instant turned his eyes upon them. He started back one step in surprise. His blood seemed to leave his face for a moment, but recovering himself he rushed forward, clasping Riley to his breast, saying, "Welcome to my arms. My dear sir, this is truly a happy moment. He next took each of the others by the hand and welcomed them to their liberty while tears ran down his cheeks. Then turning his eyes toward heaven he said, "I thank the great Author of my being for Thy mercy to these my brothers."

Rais-bel-Cossin was so much affected that he hid himself behind the wall to conceal his tears, for the Moors as well as Arabs hold shedding of tears to be a degrading weakness.

After this interview, they were escorted to Mr. Willshire's house by a squad of soldiers that were necessary to keep the rabble from doing them violence. They were then ordered before the bashaw, who was a Moor of about 60 years. He was sitting crosslegged on a mat spread on the floor. His dress was a *haick* (blanket). He asked Riley (through an interpreter) of what country he was? Where their vessel was wrecked? How many men there were in all and if the remainder were alive. How long they had been slaves and if the Arab, their last master, had been kind to them? He wanted to know how much money from the vessel fell into the hands of the Arabs? And what other cargo she had on board?

Having satisfied his inquiries, he said they were now free and he would write to the Emperor respecting Riley and his men and hoped he would give them leave to go home to their country. He then dismissed them.

Upon arrival at Mr. Willshire's house, some Jews were ready to shave off their beards. Their heads were also in an unpleasant condition, being literally filled with vermin. As their beards and heads underwent the operation of the scissors and razors, their bodies were cleansed with soap and water, and their sores rubbed with sweet oil. Riley's mind that had withstood all his trials and hardships now for a time gave way, but it returned as he gained in strength.

Mr. Willshire was untiring in his care for Riley and his men, sparing no expense that would contribute to their comfort. Clark and Burns were mere skeletons, and Savage and Horace nearly as much reduced. At the request of Mr. Willshire, Riley was weighed and fell short of 90 pounds, although his normal weight had been 240 pounds.

Shortly after their arrival at Magadore,

Riley received by courier from Consul General Simpson at Tangier to Mr. Willshire, the following letter.

GIBRALTAR, 13th November, 1815.

My Dear Riley:

I will not waste a moment by unnecessary preamble. I wrote to Mr. Willshire that your draft on me for twelve hundred dollars or more shall be duly paid for the obtainment of your liberty and those with you. I have sent him two double-barreled guns to meet his promise to the Moor. In a short time after the receipt of this, I hope to have the happiness to take you by the hand under my own roof again. You will come here by the way of Tangier.

Your assured friend,

HORATIO SPRAGUE.

On the 4th day of January, 1816, Savage, Burns, Clark, and Horace shipped for Gibraltar on a Genoese schooner sailing under the English flag, and Riley started overland for Tangier to visit the American consul general residing at that place, in order to make effectual arrangements for the redemption of the remainder of the unfortunate crew, should they yet be alive. The company consisted of young Zagury, an old Jew named David, a Jew servant, two Moors, who were the muleteers, and an imperial soldier for their guide.

On the evening of the 19th of January, Riley arrived at Tangiers, where he was conducted before the governor, who ordered him to be escorted to the American consul's house, where he soon arrived, and was received by the American consul general, James Simpson.

On the 29th of January, Riley left the home of Mr. Simpson and sailed for Gibraltar, where he arrived the same evening but too late to land until the next morning, when he met his friend Horatio Sprague, who had so cheerfully paid his drafts from Magadore. On the 2nd of February, 1816, they set sail for New York in the ship "Rapid," Capt. Robert Williams, and arrived at New York March 20, 1816. He

hastened to Middletown, where he found his family in good health. He only spent one week with them, when he hastened to Washington and called upon Hon. Samuel W. Dana, United States Senator, who introduced him to Hon. James Monroe, Secretary of State.

The administration paid from the treasury his and his crew's ransom, amounting to \$1,852.45. The Secretary and many members of Congress advised him to publish a narrative of his experience. He resolved to abandon the sea and spend the remainder of his life in his native country. The next two or three years were spent in preparation for the profession of a civil engineer, and in June, 1819, he was appointed a deputy surveyor by Edward Tiffin, Surveyor General of the United States. The appointment was subject to the pleasure of the Surveyor General.

In July, 1819, Captain Riley reached St. Marys and commenced surveying the lands purchased from the Indians in 1818, at the treaty of St. Marys. In the winter he returned to Washington, where he spent the winter. In the spring of 1820, he moved his family from Middlesex county, Connecticut, to Chillicothe, Ohio, in a two-horse wagon, by way of New York City and thence through New Jersey, to Cumberland, Pennsylvania, then following the National Road to Ohio. They were six weeks on the way. He left his family at Chillicothe until 1821, where he removed them in January to what the Indians called "the rapids", at Willshire.

In 1820, Captain Riley surveyed the land between the Auglaize and the Maumee rivers. In 1821 the whole family were taken down with chills and not one was able to wait on the other. On the arrival of James Watson Riley with a surveying party, they were placed on beds on wagons and hauled to Piqua, 60 miles distant, to receive medical treatment. Captain Riley

was elected a member of the Legislature in 1823, from the district composed of Darke, Shelby, Mercer, Van Wert, Paulding and Williams counties.

In 1824 the surveying of Ohio lands was completed and Captain Riley gave his attention to his mill and other interests until January, 1826, when he was attacked by an affection of the head and neck and was taken to Fort Wayne for treatment, and thence to Detroit on a bed arranged in a boat, and from there in the same manner on a vessel on Lake Erie, to Buffalo, and thence on the Erie Canal to New York. In 1830 he was so far recovered that he returned to the ocean, the object of his first love. In 1831 he visited Magadore to see his benefactor, Mr. Willshire, and established a trade there, making nine voyages to that country. The winter of 1839-40 he spent in Magadore and the city of Morocco. In March, 1840, he left New York in his brig "William Tell," for St. Thomas, in the West Indies, and died when 13 days out and was buried at sea.

His town at that early day bid fair to make a thriving town, but railroads and canals drew the settlers to other centers.

ANSEL BLOSSOM

Was among the very early settlers of the county. He was the first justice of the peace elected in the county and served as the first to the Board of County Commissioners.

He came from Maine, where he had taught a school. On his arrival in the town of Willshire he worked for Captain Riley at \$1 a day and board until there was due him \$100, with which he entered 80 acres of land. He erected a log cabin, moved upon the property in the fall and commenced clearing. He was particular to have his clearing exactly square and not get-

ting his field square he would not plow it in the spring.

He imagined himself a second Benjamin Franklin, and imitated him even to sticking his thumbs in his waistcoat arm-holes; on no account would he go faster than a walk, even to escape a sudden thunder shower, as it was undignified to run.

He had a wife named Mercy and a large family. To make sure that his sons should bear great names, the eldest was named Horatio Gates; the next Edward Preble; then Ira Allen, Benjamin Franklin, Smith Mathias, James Monroe, and John Quincy Adams. Benjamin Franklin worked for Captain Riley, while the rest of the great men were clearing up the Blossom farm.

The first wedding in Van Wert County was that of Philip Frountner and Miss Bolenbaugh. About a week before that time Mr. Blossom was elected justice of the peace by his own vote and was entitled to perform the marriage ceremony. Philip had postponed his wedding rather than go to St. Marys or Fort Wayne. But one morning the squire on going to his milk house saw a pole cat quietly drinking milk from a milk pan. He very deliberately went into the house and asked Mercy to hand him the fire shovel, to her inquiry, "What do you want it for," replying, "You will be addressed presently." Finding the animal with its head over the pan, he brought the shovel down upon its neck cramming its head into the milk with the intention of drowning it, but the animal gave him such a sprinkling as to render him blind for a time and to perfume his clothes, including his only white shirt with a high collar, which he wore on great occasions, starched so that it had the appearance of holding his bald head up by the ears. He instantly called for Mercy to help him into the house, change!

his clothes as soon as possible and buried them to get rid of the offensive odor. This made poor Phil put off his wedding. After two weeks, thinking that the Squire's garments were in condition to be worn on such an occasion as intended, Phil presented himself at the Squire's for the purpose of engaging his services; seeing that he had on his hickory shirt, he was about to depart but finally mustered up courage and said, "Squire Blossom have you a clean white shirt to put on?" To which with becoming dignity the Squire asked, "Why?" "Wall, if you have, I want you to come out to Peter Bolenbaugh's and marry me to his sister, I got the license of Riley in my pocket." "Mercy are my best shirts ironed?" Being answered that they would be ironed in time, all were invited to the wedding and of course all went, great and small. A sumptuous supper was served and thus ended the first wedding in Van Wert County, which took place in the fall of 1822.

The first well dug in the county was put down by Captain Riley. It was dug down to the level of the rock in the river, was walled up with limestone and was a good well of water.

This determined Ansel Blossom to dig him a well. But as the stone for walling had to be hauled for over half a mile and he had no team and considering himself a great genius, he concluded to give his well such a start like a funnel that it would not need to be walled, particularly as he found a solid mass of blue clay. He dug a hole about 10 feet in diameter, and expecting to reach water in 30 feet gave it the proper slope to have it, when done, not over two feet in diameter at the bottom, where he expected to find solid rock like in the Riley well. All told him to have a wooden curb and stone on hand ready to curb and wall it up as soon as he struck water. But all to no purpose. When he had dug about 30 feet, he came to hard-

pan. He dreamed that he struck a crowbar down and struck water. He did so: lost his crowbar and sure enough the water gushed up so fast that he had barely time to climb out on the ladder he had used for carrying up the dirt, when it began to cave in. Before night the water rose to the top and ran over and he was obliged to fill it up as it was near his house.

He concluded to try again. About six rods east of his house there was a very large and thrifty beech tree not less than three feet in diameter. He philosophised upon the matter and came to the conclusion that so thrifty a tree must have a large body of water under it, into which its tap roots penetrated and that he would not have to dig so deep by at least 10 feet. This time he had his stone hauled and a wooden curb to put down to keep out the quicksand. He commenced by cutting down the tree in the usual way two or three feet above the ground. Instead of digging out the stump and getting it out of the way, he dug all around it, only leaving the "tap roots" as he called them. When he had got a large hole some six feet deep, he cut off the bottom roots without taking any means to prevent the stump from falling over, which it did. Then he found that with all his boys he could not move the stump. He borrowed a yoke of oxen and chain, hitched the chain to the stump but the angle was too great, and the stump was only pulled against the side. He and his boys worked half a day and finally the chain broke and the cattle started for home, but as his dignity (being squire) would not let him run a few steps to stop them, they got into a full run. As the chain was broken, the hands at the mill feared that something dreadful had happened. In about half an hour the Squire very deliberately walked into the sawmill, with his thumbs in the arm-holes of his vest and his fingers meeting over his chest, and made known the diffi-

culty. The men took both yoke of cattle and more log chain, placed some sticks down the side of the stump and, making one end of the chain fast above the ground and passing the other around the stump, taking what they called a "rolling hitch," rolled it out in five minutes.

Then he was ready for the windlass to haul up the dirt and was offered the one used at the Riley well, but he said it required too much work to work the windlass and he had a plan that would save all that work, and his two sons, Benjamin Franklin and Edward Preble, could do it all so the other boys could farm and clear land. To accomplish this, he had an old-fashioned well-sweep erected; each side of the heavy end he erected two poles some 25 feet long, like two ladders; they were fastened together at the top and had holes bored through them both ways about a foot apart, rounds put in the side to use as a ladder and holes through across about a foot apart into which a pin could be fitted, so that when Ben wanted to go down Ed got astride the butt end of the sweep, pulled out the pin that was through the poles above and Ben, being the older and heavier, came down and Ed went up. When down Ben called to Ed to put in the pin; then when the bucket was full Ed pulled out the pin that held the sweep up, which let it down and brought the bucket up. Then he emptied it and lowered it, and Ben held it until Ed climbed up his ladder and inserted the pin beneath the sweep until the bucket was filled. It was a very slow process, but the boys persevered and had gone about 25 feet, which was the height of his ladder, when a new one 30 feet in length had to be erected. After much delay and labor the work progressed a few feet more, when one morning Benjamin Franklin stepped into the tub to go down without seeing that Edward Preble was astride and without the latter's

counterbalance he dropped to the bottom, which was composed of sand, and broke through into water. Not being much hurt and believing that Edward Preble had been astride and that he must have been thrown into the air like a stone from an ancient catapult, he screamed out "Ed!" just as Ed called out "Ben!" This soon brought out the whole family. They found water coming in very fast. Ed climbed his ladder, mounted his teeter and soon had Ben to the surface. Horatio Gates was dispatched to the mill for hands to help, who were promptly on the ground and the wall was finished before night.

Ansel Blossom was peculiar even in his manner of shaking with the ague. Instead of wrapping up in more clothes, he would take off his coat and vest, have his shake and when the fever came on put on his coat. He was very proud of being bald-headed, as he thought it was a sign of great intellect. He said, "Captain Riley, have you noticed most all great men were bald-headed? I remember many were; Julius Cæsar of old, our John Quincy Adams and also our Benjamin Franklin, decidedly great men, were bald. Did you ever notice that I am bald."

* * *

The first celebration of the Fourth of July held in Willshire was in 1825. The table was spread under the giants of the forests. The meats for that occasion comprised bear, venison, wild turkey, with a good supply of fish of the finest quality. The oration was by Captain Riley and was grand and patriotic, but as so much space has been given to the account of his life it will be omitted.

The first religious services were held at the house of Captain Riley. One of the missionaries was a Mr. Antrem. He was a large and powerful man and was considered a revivalist. He called the excitement and shouting the work

of the Holy Spirit, and when the excitement was at its height he would exhort them telling them that hell was raging just beneath them with fire and brimstone. "Yes," said Freshour, "I know it is just under Shane's Prairie, cause I dug a well last week and the water was so full of brimstone and sulphur that they couldn't use it, and it turned everything black and caved in. I don't believe but hell is right under there." The minister would quote from the Bible, from Dante, Bunyan and Milton.

The first school was taught by Ansel Blossom in a one-story log house used for a post-office, afterward for Court House and jail. The school opened January 1, 1836, with six pupils, two Majors,*two McManuses and two Reichards.

The first dry goods store was opened by Henry Reichard in 1836. In the spring of 1837 Charles Mount came to Willshire with a small stock of goods and was the leading merchant for many years.

The first hotel was built by William Case and kept by him until 1839, being then rented to a man by the name of Alsap, a Winebrennerian preacher. He did love wine and it is said that when not too full he could preach a good sermon.

In 1850 Dr. J. W. Pearce built the second tavern in the place, at that time the best house in Van Wert County.

The first frame schoolhouse was built on the Public Square in 1848.

The first temperance organization was the Sons of Temperance, organized in 1848. It was kept up for many years and exerted a great influence.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Of Willshire is one of the oldest in the Auglaize Association, having been first organized in 1837 and admitted to the Mad River Associa-

tion. Nothing is known of the church until 1843, when the history of the Mad River Association states that the church dissolved, and that it was later reorganized and admitted again. The minutes of the church state that on September 2, 1843, the church was organized in the Willshire schoolhouse. Elder Fuson was moderator and Elder Sleeper, clerk. The constituent members were: R. D. Tisdale and wife, of Bethel Church, Iowa; Isaac Rose and wife, of Sunbury, Ohio; Griffin Johnson, Susannah Fuller and William Case and wife. The visiting brethren constituted a council of recognition and gave the hand of fellowship. The first meeting house was erected on Decatur street in 1849. The second house was purchased from the Methodists just before the war. In 1845 the church was dismissed from the Mad River Association along with others to organize the Auglaize Association. In 1865 the church was dismissed from the Auglaize Association and joined the Salamonie River Association (Indiana), but came back to the Auglaize Association in 1884. The present house of worship was built in 1893 and dedicated free of debt in 1894 in the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Gallant. On account of difficulties that seemed insurmountable, the church was reorganized in August, 1897. Since then there has been steady work in solidifying and strengthening the things that remain. During the church's connection with the Auglaize Association, the pastors have been: Revs. D. D. Johnson, J. Larue, W. F. Woods, J. C. Skinner, W. W. Robertson, V. D. Willard, S. A. Sherman, W. H. Gallant, J. F. Smith, D. B. Reckard and J. C. F. Scherich.

A Sunday-school has been maintained since 1882. The Baptist Church has a good brick meeting house, well furnished with baptistry and robing rooms and is well equipped for carrying on the work. The present pastor lives

at Willshire and serves the Mercer (Ohio) and Pleasant Mills (Indiana) churches. The outlook for the church has never been better, and it is confidently expected that the church will meet its opportunity.

WILLIAM WHITE.

Among the early settlers, a young colored man came to Willshire, William White. He had been a slave and on account of his wonderful development physically his master decided to have him trained as a prize fighter so as to make money by exhibiting him in the prize ring. For that purpose he was trained and he entered upon it with his usual energy and soon became a scientific boxer, so quick of eye and motion that ere long his best trainer could not stand up before him. His master then sought an antagonist and found one that was considered the champion in the South.

They entered the ring with the betting largely in favor of White's antagonist, but the contest was of short duration. White with his wonderful strength and quickness forced his right past his adversary's guard and taking him on the shoulder broke it so completely that he had to be carried from the ring.

White then told his master that he would never fight another prize fight, that he might send him South to the cotton fields, or do anything else with him but match him for the prize ring. His master shortly after gave him his liberty and he came to Willshire. The author well recollects him as a young man, when he used to come to Van Wert to see Nancy Young, who afterward became his wife. She was working for the writer's uncle, Robert Gilliland. He was over six feet tall and weighed about 250 pounds, and not a pound of surplus flesh either. He was as black as any of the Southern darkies, but had such a pleasant coun-

tenance that none could help liking him. You recognized him as a powerful man on the instant.

He was industrious and applied his powerful strength to good advantage. He would not use a common axe but had one made to order, weighing six pounds, and would swing it the whole day with apparent ease. He would put up his six cords of wood with as much ease as other choppers would two or three. One instance of the tremendous strength he could put forth is very well remembered by the writer. It was shortly after the railroad was built through Van Wert and goods and groceries for Willshire were hauled from the former place to Willshire by wagon. One day three teamsters were loading their wagons from the car. In rolling out a barrel of coal oil, it got the advantage of them and slipped off into the mud. The three of them had been working for some time trying to get it up on the wagon, only to have it slip from the wet plank back into the mud, when White happened along and accosted them with, "What are you trying to do, boys." "Oh! Mr. White, won't you help us," they cried with one voice. "Certainly," he said and walked over to the wagon. "Take away the plank," he said. "But we want to roll it up on that," they replied. "Take it away; we don't need it," he said, and taking hold of the chime at each end and drawing it up slowly on his knees he gave it a toss into the wagon with apparently as much ease as an ordinary man would a keg of nails.

J. S. Eyler tells that at one time White had hauled five barrels of coal oil from Van Wert to them (Casto & Eyler) and drove into the alley back of the ware-room, there were posts set so that he could not drive nearer than 10 or 12 feet of the ware-room. Eyler was getting a plank to roll them, when White said, "You do not need that;" taking out the end

gate, he took the first barrel, walked with it to the ware-room, set it down and turning around said, "Roll out the next." This continued until the five were safely deposited in the ware-room apparently without an effort.

At one time he and some of his neighbors had gone to the Grand Reservoir in Mercer County to enjoy some fishing. A party from Auglaize County were there. Hearing White's name called, one of them said, "Are you the White they say is the best man in Van Wert County?" "Oh, no," said White, "there are plenty of better men in the county." "Well," said the man, "I have whipped the best man in Allen County and the best man in Auglaize County and the best man in Mercer County and now I am going to whip you and then I will be the champion of four counties." White told him that he would not fight him. The man said, "Take off your coat; you will have to fight." White only laughed and replied that he guessed not. The man said, "Prepare yourself," and struck at White, who dodged and

caught the man's arm and threw him about 15 feet into the reservoir. His friends had to jump in and help him out and the man carried his head on one side for several weeks, the jar had so nearly dislocated it.

At one time during the War of the Rebellion, White came to town and two toughs that were the terror of the community determined that they were going to fight him. White could have picked them up and cracked their heads together but instead staid in Swineford's grocery until they were tired watching for him. Some of the citizens urged him to go on the street and if attacked to give them a good thrashing, but he said it would not be right as that would be inviting the trouble and while they deserved a thrashing, yet it he could avoid it, it was better.

He lived to a good age and was never known to do an act that could not be endorsed by his neighbors. He was a good neighbor and respected by every one.

CHAPTER VII

RIDGE TOWNSHIP

Settlement of the Township—Incidents of Life Among the Pioneers—Two Large Trees—An Irishman Scares Away a Wolf—A Wild Cat Hunt—Early Elections—An Indian Tragedy—Indian Method of Writing—Experiences With Indians—Indian Remains—"Johnny Appleseed"—Some Recollections of the Gilliland Family and Early Day Anecdotes—The Gilliland and McCoy Families—Smith Hill—The Ridge and Gilliland Methodist Episcopal Churches—The First Sunday-School.

Ridge Township was settled in 1835—by Smith Hill and John Mark in May; by James Gordan Gilliland in July; and by Thomas Adam, Robert and Hugh Gilliland and Peter Mills in October. William Priddy and his sons—Foster, Archelaus, Thomas D., John and William—settled here in the spring of 1836; also William and John Hill.

The general government had given the State a strip of land five miles wide along the proposed line of the canal for canal purposes, which could not be sold for less than \$2.50 per acre, or twice what government land could be had for. Then there were some other land outside of this strip that had been selected in lieu of lands that had been previously entered in that strip along the canal before the grant was made, some of the land being located on the ridge west of the canal strip, thus making the land, that was held out of the market by reason of the additional price, a strip between six or seven miles wide lying between the settlement in Allen County and the available land for

entry in Van Wert County. This was a barrier almost impassable the greater part of the year.

In 1837 Alexander and David W. McCoy and Daniel Beard settled in the south part of Ridge township. In 1839 Samuel S. Brown moved to the township.

INCIDENTS OF LIFE AMONG THE PIONEERS.

Shortly after settling in Ridge township, Smith Hill and John Mark, Methodists, and James G. Gilliland formed what they called a class and had prayer and class meetings on Sundays. On one Sunday, James G. Gilliland and his wife started to go to Hill's; after they had gone a short distance, Mrs. Gilliland said, "Hain't you better go back and hide your money (several hundred dollars)—some one might steal it." He went back, took the money out of the chest where he had kept it and, lifting a puncheon in the floor, threw the money under. When they returned in the evening

they found that the chest had been broken open. Not finding the money, the would-be thief had searched the house pretty thoroughly, even looking up the chimney to see if it had been placed on the back wall of the chimney; in doing this he had set his foot in the ashes, leaving a plain print of his shoe there. As the shoe had a home-made half-sole of peculiar shape, it was no trouble for Mr. Gilliland to remember it. A short time afterward he helped to raise a house in the neighborhood and when the men were lying on the ground at noon resting he found that the shoe with the peculiar half-sole belonged to one of his neighbors. While he never told any one but his brothers, it was noticeable that he never had any dealings with this man after the occurrence, although for 20 years or more they lived within two miles of each other and were considered near neighbors.

James G. Gilliland spent a considerable time showing land to parties wishing to enter. The land office issued plats showing what lands were vacant—these Mr. Gilliland would show to prospective buyers. At one time he started out with four men, all strangers to each other. Before they started, Mrs. Gilliland noticed one of the men crawl under a bed and put his saddle-bags back in the farthest corner. The men were gone three days in the western part of the county. On their return this man, as soon as he came into the house (there was only one room in the house), crawled under the bed, got out his saddle-bags and explained that there was \$2,000 in gold in them. Mr. Gilliland gave the man a good talking to for endangering the lives of his family, and said that he would not have gone away from home had he known that the money was in the house. At another time, five or six men who had been out several days, concluded they wanted to go out on Sunday. After some objections they started. Night overtook them before they re-

turned and the dog that was with the party treed a coon, which they endeavored to shoot, as it was a moonlight night. After shooting four or five times each, they noticed that one man's gun would not go off, and they accordingly accused him of not having it loaded, which he denied. After they had killed the coon, they examined his gun and found it was not loaded. Some of the men told Mr. Gilliland that the man was a class leader in the church at home.

Smith Hill was a great bee hunter, and while he was a large man, weighing nearly 200 pounds, he would climb the tallest tree and cut out the honey. He climbed a tree on the Jacob Balyeat farm in Ridge township 104 feet high. At another time he climbed an ash tree, where the bees were in a limb that ran straight out from the tree; he was standing up on the limb to chop, and had only struck one or two strokes, when the limb broke off and fell, leaving only a strip of wood about six inches wide that extended past his feet a foot or two. At one time he had found a bee tree north of the ridge and with one or two of his nephews went to get the honey. For some reason they did not take a gun. The dogs began barking and when Hill and his nephews came up they found a bear backed up against a tree fighting the dogs. Mr. Hill approached the bear with his axe, and the dogs, being encouraged by his presence, made a more furious attack; the bear's attention being thus attracted by the onslaught of its canine foes, Hill hit it, burying the bit of the axe nearly to the handle in the side of its head. At another time, when he and some of his nephews were starting out coon hunting in the snow, the dogs began barking at something in a treetop and Mr. Hill went up close, supposing it was a porcupine, as that was about the only thing the dogs would not tackle. When he got up pretty close, a very large bear made at him. In at-

tempting to back out, his foot caught in a limb and he fell. When he regained his feet, the bear was almost upon him and he split its head open with an axe.

It was customary for Smith Hill, James G. Gilliland and Elihu Ireland to go hunting every fall in the north wods, either in the northern part of this county or in Paulding county. One fall they camped on Prairie Creek. While the others were fixing camp, Mr. Gilliland started out to get some meat for supper. He had gone some distance when he shot a very large buck, which fell in its tracks. He set down his gun, took hold of the deer's horns, and drew its head back to cut its throat, when the deer came to and with its hair all turned forward, as is customary with deer when angry, began to struggle. Mr. Gilliland knew it was a death struggle for one or the other. After going around in a circle for some time, he succeeded in getting the deer's neck against a small sapling. The deer would go around about as fast as Mr. Gilliland could, but at last when it ceased to struggle for an instant Mr. Gilliland let go the horn with one hand and drawing his hunting knife plunged it into the deer's throat. There was no time until then when Mr. Gilliland would not have been glad to have let the deer go if he could only have escaped. After examining the deer, it was found that when he shot it he only creased it scarcely the thickness of the ball.

During the same trip there was a heavy fall of snow, while the leaves were still on, and many trees were broken and bent; when the snow was going off the next day there was a great crackling of timber, resembling the report of a discharge of a gun. When Mr. Gilliland was about a mile from camp, eight deer came close to him; he shot the leader and when it fell the others commenced to play around it; he continued to load and discharge his gun as

fast as he could and shot five, when the dog that they made stay at the camp, hearing the shots, ran in and scared the other three away. Hill and Ireland soon came running, thinking there had some accident happened. The five deer that he had killed lay in a space less than 30 feet square. Smith Hill found 13 bee trees, Mr. Gilliland had killed eight deer, while Mr. Ireland had not had a shot at a deer, although he was as good a hunter in general as either of the others.

Shortly after the canal was built, two of the Gilliland brothers went to Delphos to mill. A man coming in with a sled-load of hogs for sale with their heads cut off (hogs were marked by cutting pieces out of their ears), they hollered "hog thief" at him. The next day an officer came with a warrant for them, but unfortunately for his case he had the names of two of the other brothers in the warrant. These two brothers secured their witnesses, made up a big sled-load from the neighborhood and town, went to Delphos and stood trial, and of course proved an alibi. As it was necessary to stay all night, they were gathered in Hollister & Bliss' store for the evening and a party of them were playing cards, the most of the games being won by a Mr. Evans. James G. Gilliland, who had been looking on, remarked that he did not think that Mr. Evans won the games as much by his good playing as by the others' bad playing. Mr. Evans then said he would play Mr. Gilliland three games of "old sledge," his warehouse against Mr. Gilliland's farm. Mr. Gilliland won all three games. The word spread all over the county in a short time and people would "holler" at Mr. Gilliland and ask him if he bought grain at his warehouse.

A man named Levi Rowland living on the edge of what was called the "Long Prairie" had a dream one night of having a fight with

a wolf. The next morning when hunting his cows he heard their bells across the prairie; when he came to the edge of the tall grass, he recalled his dream and went back to the woods and cut him a heavy club. He had gone only a short distance when he ran onto a wolf; the wolf showed fight and Mr. Rowland killed it with his club.

At that early day there were no mills nearer than Piqua or Fort Wayne, but there was a horse-mill in the southeast part of Ridge township owned by one Pool, where people could get their corn ground by furnishing a horse and driving. The burrs were upstairs and the horse went around down below, the meal came down a spout from above to the ground floor. They could grind two bushels of corn in a little less than a day. Jack Ireland tells that he went there once with a bag of corn and along in the afternoon he noticed that there was no meal coming down the spout, although he was hurrying the horse all he could. He went upstairs and there stood two half-starved hounds that were eating the meal as fast as it came from the burrs.

In nearly every neighborhood there would be a family that possessed a hand-mill, where meal could be ground a little faster than the family could eat it. The Gillilands had one. One of the burrs was lost in a peculiar manner: Clarissa Gleason was teaching school in an old house that had belonged to Robert and Hugh Gilliland, where one of the burrs of the hand-mill was utilized as a dunce block. For some infraction of the rules, one of the pupils, Nancy Scott, had been seated on it, but the young lady's beau, a lad named James Mewhirter, in loyalty to his sweetweart climbed in the window, took the burr and threw it in the well.

Samuel S. Brown moved to Ridge township in 1839, and carried the mail between Van

Wert and Greenville. His wife could use an axe or gun equal to any of the men of the day and did a large part of the first clearing. It was not an uncommon thing to see her come in with half a dozen squirrels or a turkey.

James M. Young moved into the township at an early day and settled on the farm now owned by Mr. Baxter, Marion List and Mr. Steman. His wife, who was a good singer, had a strong, clear voice and could be heard distinctly a mile on a still evening.

At a time when there was no physician nearer than Lima, Charles Gilliland in felling a small tree broke his leg. His father sent for James G. Gilliland, his older brother, who set the limb, whittled splints out of hickory to keep the bones in place and made a box to keep the leg in place. It proved to be a good job and never gave Charles the least of trouble.

When coming to Van Wert County, James G. Gilliland brought with him his family, consisting of his wife and three children—Mrs. M. H. McCoy, the late Mrs. James Montgomery and Thaddeus S. He stopped at Bucyrus and left his family, while he selected and entered land in Ridge township. He traded one of his horses for a yoke of oxen at Bucyrus and reached Van Wert County in July, 1835. One of the oxen that he secured by this trade had the "trembles" (milk sickness) and whenever heated would fall down and tremble so that he was of little value. It took three days to come from the Big Auglaize to Smith Hill's camp, west of where the County Infirmary is now located. With the assistance of Smith Hill and Adam Gilliland, he built a log house, into which he moved and commenced clearing a farm. It was frequently necessary to take the dog into the house at night to protect the animal from the wolves, that often prowled around the house after dark. Bears were very destruc-

tive on the hogs and cornfields, at one time taking a good-sized shoat out of the pen in the yard.

When the writer was a boy, he had to walk around the corn field all day with the dog and a rattle-trap, by some termed a horse-fiddle, to scare the squirrels away and at night the coons and bears would destroy nearly as much as the squirrels did in daylight. At one time his father told some men in Van Wert that he would furnish the ammunition if they would come out and shoot squirrels. Four of them came out and killed 240 squirrels. The writer and two of the neighbor's boys carried home what they desired and left the rest. This was all done around one field and in a short time the squirrels seemed to be as plentiful as ever. The family had a dog that would only go to the field when Mr. Gilliland was at home. The writer recollects that one night his father came home and had scarcely got in the house, when he heard a coon squall. He went out and killed it and threw it in the smoke house, but had scarcely got in the house until he heard another and this was repeated until he had killed nine. He went to bed while another was squalling, for he was tired out. The next morning when he went out he found that the dog had killed his coon, had laid it against the front door and lay there watching it. That year Mr. Gilliland sold over \$100 worth of pelts, consisting of coon, bear and deer skins. Three buyers came from Fort Wayne and bid on them; each one took a chip and made his figures and the highest bidder, Mr. Ewing, got the pelts. Mr. Gilliland and Smith Hill bought fur for Ewing that year and took two wagon-loads to Fort Wayne in the spring, two yoke of oxen drawing each wagon. The pelts were loaded on hay-racks and each load was as large as a ton of hay.

At one time M. H. McCoy caught a she

wolf in a trap and dragged it home. That night three of her pups followed the trail to the house. It is said that wolves can't howl unless they sit down on their hind parts. That night these three young wolves sat down in the dust in the road and set up a most dismal howl. The dog tried to jump through the window into the house, he was so badly scared. At another time McCoy heard a turkey gobble. Taking his gun, he went out into the woods and, secreting himself in a treetop that had fallen in such a manner that he would be screened from whichever way the turkey would come, commenced calling. He could hear the turkey coming, but just as it came in sight he heard a twig break behind him and turning around saw a wolf within 10 feet of him. He shot at it as it ran and wounded it, but was too badly scared to make as good a shot as he otherwise would have made.

M. H. McCoy bought the west half of the northwest quarter of section 16 in Ridge township about 1855 for \$9 an acre, and about two or three years afterward sold over \$200 worth of walnut and ash timber off of two acres of the land.

TWO LARGE TREES.

A large white ash tree stood on the M. H. McCoy farm. When McCoy started out one morning, he told his wife that about noon she would feel the earth tremble but it was just sundown when the tree fell. It was seven feet across the stump; the first log, 12 feet long, made 1,266 feet of lumber and the tree 6,666 feet. A man by the name of C. Hotchkiss sawed the lumber and Dr. William Smith furnished the oxen and mud-boat to haul the logs on the snow.

There was a walnut tree on the Gilliland farm that measured 25 feet around, two feet above the ground. Wirt cut the tree. It made

five logs, each 12 feet long to the first limb and a good log above that; and a log two feet thick out of the first limb. After trying in every way he could to haul it to the sawmill, as a last resort he split it into quarters with powder.

AN IRISHMAN SCARES AWAY A WOLF.

A wolf had run down a large buck and the deer made for Peter Will's house for protection; the deer would run around the house and the family within could hear it strike its horns against the house in the night. In the morning Mrs. Wills slipped out and went to her brother, J. G. Gilliland, for him to come and shoot the wolf. An Irishman happened to be at Gilliland's and he was told to stay at the house or he would scare the wolf. Just as the wolf was seen by Mr. Gilliland, the Irishman "hollered," "There he is, shoot the baste." That was warning enough for the wolf, which immediately left for tall timber, leaving behind a very angry man (Gilliland) and a disappointed Irishman.

A WILD CAT HUNT.

Bill Parent, Sam Engleright and half a dozen Van Wert men went out to the cat swamp on the McMillen and McCoy farms, where they started several wild cats, which would run the length of the thicket, then cross the road into the other and go the whole length of that and then cross over. After the hunters had run one until the hounds were getting tired, they went to McCoy's home and asked McCoy if he would hold his bulldog in the road and when the cat crossed the road have the dog catch it and hold it until the hounds came up. They would then take the bull dog off and let the hounds and the cat fight. When the wild cat came out of the brush, it started through the clearing with the dog after it. They came to a large log which both jumped at the same time.

The dog then turned around, stood with his fore feet on the log and looked at the men, who upon their arrival 30 seconds later found that the cat was dead. The bull dog had caught it back of the shoulder as it went over the log and crushed it. They told McCoy to take his dog home, as he was spoiling the fun. Later in the day one of the hounds and a wild cat met in McCoy's back yard. The cat and hound both reared up, clinched and rolled on the ground together and the hound would have soon been torn to pieces had not two other hounds come to his relief. As it was he was in a sorry plight. Four wild cats killed was the result of the day's hunt.

EARLY ELECTIONS.

The following is a copy of the first election poll book in Ridge township:

Poll book of an election held in Ridge township, Van Wert County, Ohio, on the 24th day of June, 1837. John Hill, James G. Gilliland, and Adam Gilliland, judges; and William Nuttle and Robert Gilliland, clerks of said election.

Names and Number of Electors.

No. 1 Smith Hill.	No. 6 John G. Fortney.
" 2 William Friddy.	" 7 Thomas Gilliland.
" 3 Abraham Hires.	" 8 Henry Harrod.
" 4 John Hill.	" 9 Oliver Stacy.
" 5 James Young.	

This is to certify that the number of electors at this election amounts to nine (9).

John Hill had 9 votes for trustee.
 James G. Gilliland had 9 votes for trustee.
 David McCoy had 9 votes for trustee.
 James Young had 9 votes for supervisor.
 William Burright had 9 votes for supervisor.
 Robert Gilliland had 7 votes for township clerk.
 Oliver Stacy had 5 votes for fence viewer.
 Nathan Davis had 1 vote for fence viewer.
 Smith Hill had 5 votes for overseer of the poor.

ROBERT GILLILAND, }
 WILLIAM NUTTLE, } Clerks.

JOHN HILL,
 JAMES G. GILLILAND, }
 ADAM GILLILAND, } Judges.

It seems that of the judges and clerks, only John Hill voted at this election.

At an election held on the 10th day of October, 1837, Thomas Gilliland was elected justice of the peace. His commission was dated October 21, 1837.

The next election was held on the 2nd day of April, 1838; David King, William Priddy and John Hill served as judges, and Robert Gilliland and Oliver Stacy as clerks. Nathan Davis and David McCoy were elected trustees, Oliver Stacy, clerk, and Robert Gilliland, treasurer.

AN INDIAN TRAGEDY.

About the time of the first settling of the county, a party of Indians were camped on the bank of Dog Creek, east of where the County Infirmary now is, and were sitting around their camp-fires, when all at once two young Indians sprang to their feet and plunged their knives into each other's hearts, both falling dead at the same time. The trouble was about their sweetheart. There is another version to this story, which is given elsewhere. They were buried side by side in the same grave; a pen of small poles was built over it and covered in the same manner, and a small hole about over their hearts was made between two poles by cutting a little notch in each pole. This as long as the Wyandots were here was every year stained red with pokeberry juice. As long as William Martin owned the farm, he respected their resting place, and would not allow it to be farmed over; but since then all trace of the grave has been obliterated.

INDIAN METHOD OF WRITING.

Mr. Gilliland was coming home from town when he saw an Indian standing by a beech tree looking with very much interest at a picture

of a deer, that had been lately cut in the bark. He explained to Mr. Gilliland what the picture meant. He said that a number of Indians were hunting on Prairie Creek, that they had killed a certain number of deer and that deer were very plenty. He pointed to the different parts of the picture as he explained what each meant.

EXPERIENCES WITH INDIANS.

Once, while the Wyandot Indians were still here Elmyra Gilliland (now Mrs. M. H. McCoy) and her cousin, Elizabeth Gilliland, were hunting the cows about a mile from home, when they came across an Indian camp and saw smoke coming out of one of the huts. Elizabeth became so frightened that she ran away in terror, lost her bonnet and would not stop to pick it up. Elmyra, who was more inquisitive, went up and threw down one of the slabs of which the huts were constructed, looked in and then drove her cows home. They were not aware that there were any Indians near until then.

Many of the Indians were very friendly and would frequently stay all night at the writer's father's house, and would talk quite freely if there were none but the family present, but if any strangers were about it was difficult to get them to say a word. Of one Indian in particular, whose name was Half John, the writer was quite fond. His hair was so long that it reached down to the seat on which he sat, and the writer used to slip up, pull his hair and then run away. He used to say that he wanted his venison cooked so that when he was eating it the blood would run out of each side of his mouth.

John Lake and Spike Buck were also well-known Indians at that time. In visiting the old Mission Church at Upper Sandusky in August last (1905), the writer noticed a tomb-

stone at the grave of one of the sons of Spike Buck; also of several of the Solomons, the American name for Tawohesackwaugh. An Indian of this name was tried for murder at Van Wert in 1840.

In 1839 Samuel S. Brown moved his family into Ridge township, settling on the property now known as the Snodgrass farm. He was away from home much of the time, carrying the mail between Greenville to Van Wert. One evening three drunken Indians came to the cabin and ordered Mrs. Brown to get them supper, which she did. After eating their supper, they danced and yelled and then left without doing any harm. After that, if Indians were seen approaching, the latch string was pulled in, which was then the method of locking the doors.

At one time two drunken Indians rode up to the Gilliland home, one being so drunk that he fell off his pony. They came to the door, but the men being away they were not admitted. They then went to the window and tried to trade a cake of sugar weighing five or six pounds for their breakfast. They would take bites from it to show that it was not poison. Finding they could not make the trade, they got on their ponies, after several falls, and rode out of the lane as fast as the ponies could run.

One day in 1839 Sarah Gilliland was teaching school in the McCoy and Beard neighborhood, when a drunken Indian, by the name of Snakehead, came in and scared the teacher and scholars very badly. About half the scholars were red-headed, and the Indians never liked red-headed people. Snakehead would pat Daniel Norman on the head and say "Nice Papoose," then he would take M. H. McCoy by the hair and pull him around, give a big whoop and run his knife around and say, "Indian scalp him." Mrs. Beard saw that there was something wrong and arming herself with

a handspike drove Snakehead away. He went off muttering "Brave squaw. Brave squaw." He then went to David McCoy's, where he was told that if he would give up his knife and tomahawk he might stay all night. He curled down on the hearth and slept until morning. In the morning he was duly sober and sorry for what he had done. He said, "All Cook whisky." Daniel Cook sold whisky to whoever had money to pay for it, although it was against the law to sell whisky to Indians.

INDIAN REMAINS.

The following information was contributed by L. D. Moore, of Ridge township. "Sometime in the fall of 1897, as late I think as November, while digging for sand to be used in building our County Infirmary, the laborers struck with their spades what upon examination proved to be a human skull. All fell at once to carefully exhuming the remains, which were rather in a decayed condition, having had practically no protection save the soil and earth surrounding it. The skull held intact, however, for some time, and was a matter of curiosity to hundreds of people. Several physicians made examinations and all seemed to agree that it was the remains of a white man, as the cavity in the jaw had neatly shrunk where the molars had been extracted.

"No other evidence could be found other than two small arrow-heads, possibly in the pockets at the time of burial. The skeleton seemed to occupy rather a sitting or cramped position and was not deeper than two feet below the surface. It was on a plot of ground that had possibly been cleared for three quarters of a century and in continuous cultivation. The location is in Ridge township on the south side of the Ridge road and but three rods southeast of the site formerly occupied by the first McEl-

odist church ever erected in Van Wert County, on land now occupied by L. D. Moore. The general verdict at that time was that of murder or at least death and burial under mysterious circumstances.

"To my personal knowledge the skeletons of three Indians have been unearthed in this vicinity within recent years. One was found while grading for piking on the line between Ridge and Washington townships, a stone's throw south of the residence of B. F. Johnson; and the other two on the land formerly owned by an old pioneer, William Martin, the old nurseryman. Tradition has it that those two lost their lives in a duel fought over a squaw as a love affair, the parties lashing their left wrists together and fighting to the death with the dirk. The exact location of the graves of these two chiefs was well known to many of the older residents of the neighborhood, and the time was when the spot was surrounded by a rude pole fence, but as time can smooth the wrinkled brow of care, so possibly the last remaining vestige of the evidence of that noble race has been blotted from the present limits of our county.

"On a bright Sabbath morning the community awakened to the fact that those graves had given up their dead. Some ghoul in human form had stolen the remains from among us and had left as a token only a few teeth, some Indian trinkets and a pipe."

"JOHNNY APPLESEED."

John Chapman, or as he was better known "Johnny Appleseed," was an eccentric character who came originally from New England. He had imbibed the idea that he could do the most for his fellow-men by planting and rearing apple trees from the seed. He was first heard of in Ohio, when he left Western Penn-

sylvania and descended the Ohio River in his canoe, which was well laden with bags of apple seed. He always kept on the outskirts of civilization. He would enter a new settlement, clear and fence a small piece of ground, plant it in apple seed and then pass on to the next settlement and would not be seen again until the trees were ready to transplant, when he would notify the settlers to come and get their trees. He would sell them for anything the settlers had to give in exchange. If any were too poor to buy, they got their trees all the same. An old hat, coat, pair of pants, shirt or pair of shoes was current with him and the love of humanity, his religion.

In 1839 he came to the home of Alexander McCoy, then just moved into Ridge township, and asked for a piece of ground in which to plant apple seed. McCoy told him that he had no ground cleared that he could fence to protect the trees, but informed Johnny that Daniel M. Beard, who lived about a mile farther south, had been in the locality longer than he and had more cleared land. He stood near the fire, where they were burning brush, and seemed to hate to leave the warmth. He was thinly clothed, his pantaloons were much too short and he wore an old pair of shoes without stockings. He went on to Beard's where he was furnished a piece of ground, properly fenced with a good log and brush fence. He planted the seed carefully and went on to the next place. He never came back to Beard's to look after his trees. Mr. Beard grafted many of them and supplied many of the neighbors with the first trees for their orchards.

The orchard on the Samuel S. Brown farm was started from "Johnny Appelseed's" nursery, and many of the apples were equal to the best grafted fruit. He planted a nursery on the farm known as the Evers farm, west of Van Wert. He also furnished apple trees for

William Johns to plant. The writer believes he was an uncle to Mrs. Johns. He asked Mrs. Gilliland to raise her oldest girl (later Mrs. M. H. McCoy) for him for a wife, and seemed to be in real earnest. She told him that he ought to get a wife nearer his own age. He said, "No, she might have loved some one else first." Continuing, he said, "Won't you raise her for me?" Mrs. Gilliland replied that he ought not to have asked such a thing. He seemed to take it to heart and never came to the house afterward.

When giving out his trees to the settlers, he seemed to derive the greatest satisfaction from it. He delighted in it as the passion of his life.

His personal appearance was as singular as his character. He was quick and restless in his motions and conversation. His beard and hair were long and dark and his eyes black and sparkling. He lived the roughest of lives and often slept in the woods. His clothing was mostly old cast-off articles given to him in exchange for apple trees. He went barefoot in the summer and often until late in the fall. In doctrine he was a follower of Swedenborg and led a moral, blameless life, likening himself to the primitive Christians, literally taking no thought for the morrow. Wherever he went, he circulated Swedenborgian literature, and if short of them he would tear a book in two and give each part to different persons. He was careful not to injure any person and thought hunting was morally wrong. He would not eat meat, as it was necessary to kill one of God's creatures to obtain it. He was everywhere welcome among the settlers and was treated with great kindness by the Indians.

It is said that one cool night, while lying by his campfire in the woods, he noticed that the mosquitoes flew into the fire and were burned. Johnny, who wore on his head a tin utensil, which answered both as a cap and a mush-pot,

filled it with water and quenched the fire. Afterward he remarked, "God forbid that I should build a fire for my comfort that should be the means of destroying any of His creatures."

At another time he built a fire at the end of a hollow log in which he intended to pass the night, but finding it occupied by a she-bear and her cubs, he removed the fire to the other end of the tree and slept on the snow in the open air rather than disturb the bear. He was one morning mowing on a prairie when a rattlesnake bit him. Sometime afterward a friend asked him about the circumstance. He drew a long sigh and replied, "Poor fellow, he only just touched me, when I in an ungodly passion put the heel of my scythe on his head and went home. Sometime afterward I went there for my scythe and there the poor fellow lay dead." He bought a coffee sack, cut a hole in the bottom, through which he thrust his head, and wore the sack as a cloak, saying that it was as good as anything.

An itinerant preacher was holding forth in the Public Square at Mansfield and exclaimed, "Where is the barefooted Christian traveling to Heaven?" Johnny, who was lying on his back on some timber, taking the question in its literal sense, raised his bare feet in the air and said, "Here he is."

John Chapman was born near Springfield, Massachusetts, in the year 1775, and came to Ohio in 1801 with his half brother. Soon after, Johnny located in Pennsylvania near Pittsburgh, and began the nursery business, which he continued on West. In 1830, after calling on his old friends in the eastern part of the State, he resolved to go farther West. Villages were springing up, stage coaches were laden with passengers, schools were everywhere, and frame and brick houses were taking the place of the cabins that had extended a welcome shelter in

the early days. Johnny went around among his friends to bid them farewell. The young people that had welcomed him in the early days were now heads of families. His work was done and he rejoiced in the fruits of his labor, but was not ready to rest from his labor. There was still work on the frontier, and thither he directed his footsteps. He died March 11, 1845, in Saint Joseph township, Allen County, Indiana, at the house of William Worth, and was buried two and a half miles north of Fort Wayne.

His bruised and bleeding feet now walk the golden paved streets of the New Jerusalem. A life full of labor, pain and unselfishness, humble unto self-abnegation; his memory glowing in the hearts of his friends; while his deeds live anew every springtime in the fragrance of the apple blossoms he loved so well.

The following bit of a poem, from the pen of Mrs. F. S. Dill, of Wyoming, Hamilton county, Ohio, is worth recording here:

Grandpa stopped and from the grass at our feet
Picked up an apple, large, juicy, and sweet.
Then took out his jackknife and, cutting a slice,
Said, as he ate it, "Isn't it nice
To have such apples to eat and enjoy.
Well, there weren't very many when I was a boy,
For the country was new, e'en food was scant,
We had hardly enought to keep us from want.
And this good man as he went around,
Oft eating and sleeping upon the ground,
Always carried and planted apple seeds.
Not for himself but for other's needs.
The apple seeds grew and we to-day
Eat of the fruit planted by the way.
While Johnny, bless him, is under the sod.
His body is—ah! he is with God.
For child, though it seemed a trifling deed,
For a man just to plant an apple seed,
The apple-trees' shade, the flowers, the fruit,
Have proved a blessing to man and to brute.
Look at the orchards throughout the land,
All of them planted by old Johnny's hand.
He will forever remembered be—
I wish to have all so think of me."

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF THE GILLILAND FAMILY AND EARLY DAY ANECDOTES.

(Given by T. S. Gilliland at the family reunion on the 27th of October, 1904).

The Gilliland family came from County Down, in the North of Ireland. They were Scotch-Irish. There were seven sons and four daughters, their names as follows: James, Thomas, Hugh, Adam, Andrew, Robert and John; Jane, Mary, Sarah and Catherine. The family came up to the Roosevelt idea, as most of the Gilliland families do. Three of the brothers came to America in advance of the rest of the family.

When the mother and father came, as they were about to sail, one of the daughters, Catherine, left the vessel and married, contrary to the wishes of the family, and it is said her name was never mentioned in the family thereafter. It is said that when the mother met the three boys she was much shocked at the color of their teeth—they had learned to chew tobacco.

Jinnie Jordan, an old Irish woman, used to say that every Sabbath the father and mother first, then the two oldest children, then the next two, and so on to the youngest, would go to church, and that was kept up after the older ones were men and women. They were Presbyterians.

The family settled in Maryland, near Hagerstown. John Gilliland, or Jack as he was familiarly called, and one of his brothers went up in the Northwestern part of Pennsylvania and took up a "tomahawk right" claim; that is, they blazed around a piece of land which gave them a title to it. On their return, the Indians pursued them for 30 miles, until within sight of Fort Duquesne, now Pittsburg. They were seldom out of sight of the Indians, for as they would ascend one hill they would see the Indians coming over the one behind. John Gilli-

land killed a fine mare in the race and was so disgusted that he gave his claim to one of his brothers, who improved it. There is now a large settlement of the Gillilands in that part of the State, many of them wealthy farmers. Two of the brothers settled in Greenbrier county, Virginia, and later went to Eastern Tennessee. They married rich planters' daughters and became slaveholders. It was a source of regret to their mother that her boys held slaves. It is said of one of the boys that when quite a lad he hired out to neighboring farmers to drive a cart. It was noticed that when he met a neighboring squire in his carriage that he would drive out of the road and take off his hat till the squire passed. Someone asking him what he did that for, he said, "Don't you have to do do that when you meet a squire?" They told him that a squire in this country was no better than any one else. The lad thought it over and concluded that he would make the squire give the road the next time. It so happened that the next time they met it was on a narrow piece of road with a deep mire at the side. The lad stopped his cart and the squire his carriage. They eyed each other and finally the squire told the lad to drive out of the road. "No," said the lad, "you give the road this time," and enforced his command by pulling a stake out of his cart and swinging it in front of the squire and telling him to drive on. This the squire did, and mired down, while the lad mounted his cart and drove on, feeling that he had asserted his rights as an American citizen, much to the amusement of the bystanders, who were watching the performance. Two brothers moved to Virginia, and finally to Eastern Tennessee, as stated above; two to Northwestern Pennsylvania; and two to Eastern Ohio, west of Pittsburgh. The other brother, John, remained in Maryland. He married Jane Briggs and raised a large family as his father before him had

done, the children being named as follows: James Gordon (named for Lord Gordon, of Ireland), John, Nancy (Mrs. Peter Wills), Thomas, Adam, Sarah (Mrs. George Guy), Robert, Jane (Mrs. Theophilus King), Hugh and William. The last named died when quite young. John Gilliland served in the Continental Army, and was at the battle of Yorktown and at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He died in 1826 from injuries received in an explosion. James G. Gilliland was then 22 years old and on him depended the rearing of the family as John, the next younger, had married and moved away. The other boys were quite young. In 1833 James G. Gilliland and a Mr. Wise came West, walking from Gettysburg to Fort Wayne and back. In 1834 Peter Wills moved to near Tiffin and the rest of the Gilliland family moved to Bucyrus and remained there during the summer of 1835, raising a crop on the farm of a Mr. Shaffner.

The Gilliland family moved to Ridge township in 1835, where James G. Gilliland entered 240 acres of land in section 9, 80 acres where the Infirmary is and 80 acres just east of the Infirmary, where John Johnson lives. This last mentioned tract he gave to his brothers for keeping their mother her lifetime. This they sold the same fall to the Parmleys for \$1,000 and each of them was able to enter land for himself. When the family was at Bucyrus, two of the brothers went out hunting and got lost. An old Indian piloted them out of the woods and then told them he could tell them how they could go hunting and never get lost. They told him they wished he would. He said, "Go out all around the field and keep looking at the fence." At another time two of them were out hunting and were very hungry, when they came to an Indian wigwam. There was no fire at home. They went in and found some jerked meat and were eating it when an Indian came

in. He looked at them a moment and asked, "White man like wolf meat?" That satisfied their appetite. The Indians had jerked the wolf meat for their dogs. To prepare jerked meat, the Indians used to build a big fire and let it burn down into a bed of coals. Then they would drive forks in the ground, lay poles in these forks, then smaller sticks across these about two foot above the coals, and on these sticks strips of meat, after being salted, were laid. In this way the meat would be partly cooked, partly smoked and thoroughly dried, and would keep for months. The writer has known his father, James G. Gilliland, to bring a whole grain sack full of jerked meat home from some of his hunting trips. Adam Gilliland married one of the daughters of Mr. Shaffner, on whose farm they were farming while at Bucyrus.

When James G. Gilliland moved to Ridge township he was four days coming from the Big Auglaize to Smith Hill's camp. The first home was built of poles and covered with linn bark. Later in the fall a better one was built of round logs and covered with clapboards held in place with weight poles instead of nails. During the fall of 1835 three men stopped for a drink, and said that the family would soon have neighbors (the nearest ones then, except Hill and John Mark, being 15 miles away), as they were going to lay out a town about three miles west. The Gillilands afterward learned that these were Aughenbaugh, Riley and Marsh.

When provisions ran low Mr. Gilliland went to Allen County and bought hard roasting ears, which were brought home and grated on a grater made by him out of part of a tin bucket by punching holes in it with a nail.

Later in the season he went to Piqua to mill and paid \$1 a bushel and had the grain ground. He tried to buy flour, but there was none for sale, although there was flour there to

give away to those who were not able to buy. (It was sent from Zanesville.) They told Mr. Gilliland that if he would say he was in need and had no money they would give him a barrel, but this he refused to do. While there he saw a rich man from Mercer county get flour. Father asked how he managed to get it. "Well," he said, "I had nothing to eat at home and had no money to buy, and they gave it to me." At that time he was worth five times as much as was Mr. Gilliland. It took two weeks to make the trip to Piqua and return with an ox team. The Gillilands went to Dayton for groceries, and to Sandusky City for salt. The writer once heard his Uncle Peter Mills say that he carried a sack of salt from Sandusky City on horseback. Mr. Gilliland once went to Kalida for crocks and on the way home lost the trail after night. He lay down to wait for the moon to come up, and fell asleep. He was awakened by something putting its cold nose against his face. It ran away and set up a howl and then he knew it was a wolf. For several years some of the family would go to Piqua to mill with an ox team.

John Gilliland was a blacksmith by trade and had moved to Logansport, Indiana. His mother and brothers wanted him to move here on a farm, but to do so he would have had to come around by way of Piqua. So the brothers and Peter Wills cut the road from four miles west of Van Wert through to Fort Wayne. After that Fort Wayne was the milling point, being 35 miles distant instead of 72 to Piqua.

Once James G. Gilliland went to Fort Wayne to mill and found about two acres covered with wagons waiting for their grists. He unloaded his grain and then asked the miller how soon he could get his grinding, and was told that it would not be under two weeks. He said that his family would starve before that time as they did not have provisions to last that

long. Some of the men spoke up and said that he was no better than they were and they had been there two weeks. Mr. Gilliland chained his oxen to the wagon and fed them. As soon as it was dark he bought a gallon jug, had it filled with the best brandy and then took it up and hid it in the bran pile. He told the miller that he had hid something nice in the bran pile and that when the hopper was about empty he should go down stairs and he (Gilliland) would throw in his grain. The miller told him that the others would not let him grind it. Mr. Gilliland replied that he was a miller by trade and would grind it himself, and so it was arranged. First he stuffed some rags in the bell so it would not ring. He then untied his sacks and was ready when the hopper run empty. He had more than half his grain in the hopper before the others noticed what he was doing. Then they caught him and some of them held him while others hunted up the miller. The miller came up in a great rage, apparently, and a quarrel ensued. The miller threw off his coat and Mr. Gilliland did the same. The miller finally said, "Well, he is a fool, I won't grind his grist, and he will spoil his flour and we will be rid of him." Mr. Gilliland appeared to be disappointed because the miller would not grind the grist and began to beg the miller to grind it, but the miller went off, refusing to touch it. That partly pacified the others. Mr. Gilliland ground his grist and started home the next morning.

The first winter after the Gillilands came to Ridge township, his brother Hugh came to James G. Gilliland's place and wanted the latter to go coon hunting with him. James told him that he had never seen a coon track and would not know one if he should see it. Hugh said he had seen them in the mud at Bucyrus. So they started north and soon came to where there was a regular path between two trees.

They cut one of them down and put the family's little fiste (dog) in the top of the tree: he would come out at the bottom. They did this several times and were about to give up when Hugh happened to look in the stump and there lay five coons apparently not disturbed by the falling of the tree. They killed 14 coons that day and Hugh was so proud of his share that he said he would carry them home that night. He carried them as far as where the James M. Young farm is and threw them down in the snow, to lie there until morning.

The first house built in Van Wert was the Court House, a double log cabin with a space between, which was used as a prison during court. It was covered with clapboards, and held in place with weight boards instead of nails. William Priddy had the contract to build it. At the raising, he brought ear corn to grate to make corn bread, and James G. Gilliland killed a deer about where the Third Ward schoolhouse is; when they were bringing in the deer, Smith Hill found a bee tree near where the deer was killed, so they had corn bread, honey and venison. Some of the men to help raise the house came from Allen County.

The Gillilands' nearest neighbors, excepting Smith Hill and John Mark, were 15 miles away at Willshire and on the Big Auglaize, and north it was 40 miles without a house. There were plenty of Wyandot Indians here. One in particular used to stay all night at the Gilliland house. His hair was so long that when he sat down it would reach the chair. The writer remembers that he liked to slip up and pull the Indian's hair. Half John, John Lake and Spike Buck are Indian names that are familiar after 60 years have passed. The first citizens of Van Wert in the early days adopted the Indian custom on holidays and elections, of selecting one of their number to keep sober; the rest

of them could get as drunk as they chose, but they would always obey the "Sober Indian," as he was called.

A practical joke that reacted on the originators occurred about this time. Samuel S. Brown carried the mail between Greenville and Van Wert once a week on horseback. Frank Dodds, Frank Mott, S. M. Clark and Bill Parent and one or two others concluded they would have Brown get a pint of good whisky from Greenville as they would not drink Dan Cook's whisky. They decided they would not let Jim Graves have any. But the secret was too good to keep and some one told Graves' wife. Well you know how that goes. The day that Brown was to come, Jim Graves went south along the Greenville road and sat down on a log and waited. When Brown came along, Graves said, "Mr. Brown, the boys are across the creek hunting and wanted me to get that pint of whisky and bring it over to them." Graves got the whisky and when Brown reached town they were all out looking for him, wanting to know if he had brought the whisky. You can imagine their feelings when he said, "I gave it to Jim Graves. He said you were hunting over on the other side of the creek and had sent him over for it."

Smith Hill used to tell that he was sitting in his camp, which was 12 feet square covered with linn bark and open on one side, when he saw a young woman coming along the trail, carrying a little boy, with a little girl following. Mrs. M. H. McCoy was the little girl and the writer was the boy. Mr. Gilliland and his brother, Adam, came up with the team later on.

Mrs. James G. Gilliland, who had the rheumatism so that she couldn't walk, one night crawled on her hands and knees 200 yards trying to get a shot at a bear that was eating the corn.

When James G. Gilliland went to mill, which was only twice a year, his family always had a feast of biscuits made of the shorts and his brothers' families frequently shared the feast also. But most of the year it was corn bread.

The writer recollects hearing Mr. Scott say that he was with Wayne's army, when they went through here and that they camped between Prairie Creek and Blue Creek. In the night some of their oxen strayed off and they could not find them, which compelled them to abandon two of their brass cannon. He said they took them into a deep swale, took off the wheels and left them. So if any one should find them, they will know how they came there.

A bee hunter when he found a bee tree would mark his name on it and that would remain his tree until he wished to cut it. One of the neighbors found a bee tree and marked it, but the next time he passed it he found his name had been cut off and Scott's put in its place. That was not to be tolerated. Some of the neighbors decided to cut the tree but for fear Scott would hear them chop, they took a log chain, put it around the tree and drew it as tightly as they could, so as to deaden the sound. They cut the tree and were just leaving with two big buckets of honey when they heard Scott coming through the woods. He never knew who cut the tree.

Smith Hill and some of his nephews were out coon hunting. They had tracked up a coon and were chopping the tree, when the dogs commenced barking in a treetop near by. Hill set his gun against a tree and went over to the dogs with his axe. When he got close up in the treetop, a very large bear came at him, and he tried to back out, when his heel caught in a brush and he fell. When he got to his feet, the bear was almost onto him and he was compelled to fight. He sunk the bit of the axe into

its head and killed it. It was very large and very fat. The writer recollects eating some of it.

THE GILLILAND FAMILY.

The early history of the Gilliland family has been quite fully entered into on preceding pages. John Gilliland, the father of James G. Gilliland and his brothers, was 63 years of age at his death in 1826. His wife, Jane (Briggs) Gilliland, died November 13, 1858, aged 83 years. Of their 10 children, nine lived to maturity. The children's names were as follows: James Gordon, born May 3, 1800; John, born January 28, 1803; Thomas, born October 22, 1806; Adam, born October 19, 1808; Nancy, born September 14, 1810, who married Peter Wills and raised a large family; Robert, born February 2, 1813; Sarah, born April 3, 1815, who married George Guy and died within 30 days of her marriage; Hugh, born October 14, 1817; William, born September 1, 1820, who died at two years of age; and Jane, born February 14, 1824, who married Theophilus King and left one child at her death,—Mary Ellen Swineheart.

The sons all remained in Van Wert County until their deaths, leaving large families. At their family reunion in August, 1905, 206 of the family sat down to the table at once. It is the boast of the family that there has never been one accused of a crime or been arrested for a misdemeanor.

THE M'COY FAMILY.

Two brothers, David W. and Alexander McCoy, came to the county in 1837 and endured the hardships of pioneer life and left a record of good citizenship and upright lives. Of large families, but two of David W. McCoy's family are now living—William Creigh-

ton McCoy and Mrs. Elenor Harnley. Of Alexander McCoy's family there are yet living Moses H., Alexander R., Joseph G. and Almira Vanatta.

SMITH HILL

Came to Van Wert County, May 4, 1835, and settled in Ridge township. At that time there was not a white family in the county except in Willshire township. He and Aunt Julia Ann, as his wife was called by all that knew her, built a camp of poles and covered it with linn bark. It was open in front and a fire was kept before it for the purpose of cooking and as a protection from wild animals. Here they were living when the Gillilands came to the county. Hill was a great hunter, and made a good living from the pelts that he secured. He always kept two or three good coon dogs and a deerhound. He was also a great bee hunter. If he found a bee on a flower in the woods, he would seldom fail to follow it to the tree and secure the honey by climbing and cutting the honey out.

Smith Hill, Elihu Ireland (a brother-in-law) and James G. Gilliland always camped out in the fall of the year to hunt. Hill spent most of his time hunting bees of a clear day and Ireland and Gilliland would hunt for deer. During these camping trips Hill always held prayers night and morning, as regularly as at home. He was a good singer and of a still morning or evening his voice could be heard for a great distance, although he was not a loud singer.

But Hill's greatest enjoyment was at quarterly or protracted meetings and he would go a great distance to spend a week at such meetings.

Smith Hill and his wife had no children of their own, which was a source of regret. Yet

they were seldom without a large family of young people of their relatives or others. Their latch string was always out. "Uncle Smith" was always ready with good advice and counsel. The writer recollects that a young man once said in Hill's hearing that he had sworn that he would whip a certain man if he ever met him, for some wrong the man had done him, when he was a boy. "Uncle Smith" said, "A bad oath is better broken than kept. Then you will have one sin to repent of. If you keep it, you will have two." "Uncle Smith" and "Aunt Julia Ann" have both passed over the river and are reaping the rewards of their well-spent lives here below.

THE RIDGE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first religious society in Ridge township was formed at the home of William Hill by Rev. O. Conoway, although prior to this Smith Hill had formed a class composed of himself and wife, John Mark and wife and James G. Gilliland and wife, which class met at Hill's every Sunday. At the time of the organization, the membership consisted of William Hill and wife, Smith Hill and wife, John Hill and wife, John Mark and wife, William Priddy and wife and some of the family and Oliver Stacy and wife. They met for a time at the house of William Hill, later at a log schoolhouse on the farm of William Martin and then at a hewed-log schoolhouse on the King farm near Middlepoint until 1848, when they built a frame church on the land of William Martin. This church was used until 1874 when they built a brick church on the farm of Ebson Stewart. Smith Hill was the first class leader and held that position for over 50 years. The first camp-meeting was held on the farm of William Martin, opposite where is now the Ridge Cemetery. Later the camp-grounds were located

on the farm of Henry Harrod, now the Walser farm.

THE GILLILAND METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Was organized at an early day with the following members: Hugh Gilliland and wife, Sarah Gilliland (wife of Adam Gilliland), Elizabeth Cavett (wife of William Cavett), Christian Harnley and wife and A. T. Priddy and wife. The Gilliland Methodist Episcopal Church for a number of years met in the school-house on the Thomas Gilliland farm. In 1857 they built a frame church on the farm of Hugh Gilliland. Among the early ministers were: Rev. N. B. C. Love, 1854 and 1855; Rev. Nathan Gavet, 1856; Rev. G. O. McPherson, 1858; Rev. William Baker, 1859; Rev. Franklin Merritt, 1860; Rev. James F. Mounts and Rev. A. Belt, 1861; Rev. James F. Mounts and Rev. B. A. Webster, 1862; Rev. B. A. Webster and Rev. H. L. Nickerson, 1863; Rev. Lemuel Herbert and Rev. Caleb Hill, 1864; Rev. Lemuel Herbert and Rev. Nathaniel Hupp, 1865; Rev. Francis Hogan and Rev. Nathaniel Hupp, 1866; Rev. Nathaniel Hupp and Rev. J. Harper, 1867; Rev. James F. Mounts and Rev. W. Beiler, 1868; Rev. James F. Mounts, 1869; Rev. Isaac N. Kalb and Rev. Nathaniel Hupp, 1870; Rev. Nathaniel Hupp and Rev. L. W. Patrick, 1871; Rev. Josiah Crooks, 1873. Rev. Caleb Hill, 1876; Rev. James F. Mounts, 1877.

The present brick church was built in 1880; in 1902 it was rebuilt and a vestibule added. The present membership is 60. The church is free from debt and perfect harmony exists among its members. It is supplied by the Van Wert circuit, of which it is a part.

THE FIRST SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

In Ridge township was organized at the home of Daniel Beard by Rev. B. W. Chidlow in 1840.

After Mr. Chidlow had been up through this part of the country and was telling about traveling for long distances through the woods without seeing a house, some of the company asked how he could find his way. He said,

"By blazes on the trees." A lady in the audience said, "Now, Mr. Chidlow, would you tell us such things. Who was there to keep up the fires?"

CHAPTER VIII

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP

Organization—The First Residents—Some of the Original Land Entries—Marks and Brands for Stock—Enumeration of Youths—Early Elections and Officials—Early Township Finances—The Kear Family.

Pleasant township was organized as a civil township June 5, 1837, by the commissioners of the county upon a petition of citizens, who requested its formation, its limits as Pleasant township to embrace township 2 south, range 2 east; and the petitioners also requested that township 1 south, range 1 and 2 east and the north half of township 2 south, range 1 east, be attached thereto for township purposes, which was granted. An election for township officers was ordered to be held at the house of James Maddox on June 20, 1837 (the Maddox house was where is now the E. R. Wells farm). The number of votes polled was 10. The next election was for justice of the peace and was held in the log Court House, at which Joseph Gleason was elected. He held the office for 15 years.

THE FIRST RESIDENTS.

The first families in Pleasant township, outside of Van Wert town, were: Henry Myers, Asa Hipshire and Daniel Hipshire, living south of town; and James and Samuel Maddox on sections 8 and 9, William Miller on section 5, Augustus Bronson on section 6 and Levi Sawyer on section 7. In the summer

of 1837 Stephen and Joseph Gleason, Elisha and Williams Wells settled in the southwest corner of Pleasant township; also, in the fall, William, Thomas, Jacob and Benjamin Thorn.

The nearest place that corn could be ground was at East's Mill, three miles west of Lima. It was a tramp-mill run by oxen, working a large wheel set at an angle of about 30 degrees.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
1	Charles Butler	322	1836
1	James W. Riley.....	80	1837
1	Henry Robinson	80	1837
1	Charles W. Baird	80	1837
1	William Hammel	80	1837
2	Charles Caples	160	1836
2	Otis M. Wood	40	1836
2	Charles Butler	120	1836
2	David Edgar	161	1837
2	Hugh Thompson and H. Walker.....	161	1837
3	Charles Butler	160	1836
3	Dan Wyman	160	1836
3	Ferdinand Haskill	158	1836
5	Eli Adams	80	1838
5	W. L. Helfenstein	40	1840
5	P. M. Dix	39	1841
6	Nancy Bronson	80	1836
6	Augustus Bronson	40	1836
6	Jonathan Clendening	76	1836
6	George Miller	96	1836

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.	SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
6	Joseph Miller	96	1836	14	Samuel S. Craft	480	1836
6	Stephen Wilkins	352	1837	14	W. L. Helfenstein	40	1840
7	George Hathaway	40	1836	15	Joseph Barnett	80	1835
7	George Baney	80	1837	15	Samuel S. Craft	480	1836
7	D. L. McMannis	40	1837	15	John Lantz	80	1836
7	Newell Stiles	40	1837	16	H. C. McGavren	80	1835
7	Nancy Barry	48	1837	16	A. M. McGavren	80	1835
7	Milton J. Ross	100	1837	16	Samuel Miller	80	1835
7	Mary J. Ross	100	1837	16	P. O. & P. Ryan	80	1835
7	Henry Zimmerman, Sr.	48	1838	16	Jonathan Tumbleson	160	1835
7	Jesse Smith	48	1840	16	Zeph. Hartman	80	1835
7	John Smith	168	1840	17	James Henderson	160	1835
8	Abraham Griffith	40	1836	17	Adam Troup	160	1835
8	James T. Maddox	80	1836	17	R. & George McCoy	160	1835
8	Samuel Chesler	160	1836	17	Ephraim Sniver	120	1838
8	John Tumbleson	160	1837	17	Joseph Uhle	40	1838
8	John Uhle	120	1838	18	Henry Zimmerman, Sr.	192	1836
8	William J. Thomas	40	1839	18	Thomas M. Thompson	160	1836
8	John Shaw	40	1852	18	Charles H. Williams	80	1837
9	John Hathaway	40	1836	18	Josiah DeLong	40	1837
9	James J. Maddox	160	1836	18	David Balyeat	192	1837
9	P. M. Dix	80	1836	18	James S. Shriver	40	1838
9	Charles Butler	160	1836	19	Lucinda McCoy	160	1836
9	George Snyder	160	1836	19	John McCoy	194	1836
9	William Ammon	40	1838	19	C. Vananda	160	1836
10	Abraham Griffith	80	1834	19	John J. Goodbread	194	1837
10	Joseph Barnett	80	1835	20	Evan Weaver	80	1836
10	Charles Meldon	80	1836	20	Herman Henderson	160	1836
10	John Hathaway	40	1836	20	William Davis	240	1836
10	Charles Maddox	40	1836	20	James H. Eaton	160	1837
10	William Moore	160	1836	21	Daniel Cook	320	1836
10	Charles Butler	160	1836	21	John McCoy	80	1836
11	George Marsh	320	1834	21	Elisha Wells	240	1836
11	Samuel W. Parmley	200	1836	22	Charles Butler	160	1836
11	William Versey	40	1836	22	L. B. Garley	80	1836
11	Charles Butler	80	1836	22	Mathew Makin	160	1836
12	George Marsh	120	1834	22	John Montgomery	160	1836
12	Joseph Wilson	80	1834	22	John McCoy	80	1836
12	Simon Perkins	80	1835	23	John Uncapher	480	1836
12	P. M. Dix	40	1836	23	Charles Butler	160	1836
12	William Stripe	80	1851	24	Robert Conn	80	1852
12	Davis & Burt	80	1852	24	Johnson & Conn	80	1852
12	William Glenn	80	1852	24	John Shaw	80	1852
12	Warner Stripe	40	1852	24	O. W. Rose	80	1852
12	J. C. Parkinson	40	1852	24	Davis & Burt	240	1852
13	Aughenbaugh, Riley & Marsh	240	1834	25	Samuel P. Hedges	80	1836
13	Joseph Griffith	80	1834	25	George Dustman	160	1836
13	Reuben Frisbie	80	1851	25	Henry Myers	160	1836
13	C. P. Edson	80	1851	25	John Uncapher	160	1836
13	Robert Gilliland	80	1852	25	Samuel W. Parmley	80	1836
13	John Shaw	40	1851	26	Charles Butler	160	1836
13	George Marsh	40	1851	26	James Lindsay	120	1836
14	George Marsh	120	1834	26	Joseph Saint	160	1836

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
26	Joseph Harbert	160	1836
26	James Simms, Jr.	40	1838
27	Henry Boston	320	1836
27	Hugh Thompson	320	1836
28	Andrew Smith	160	1836
28	David W. Green	160	1836
28	John Thompson	160	1836
28	Margaret Thompson	160	1836
29	Andrew Smith	80	1836
29	Hugh Thompson, Jr.	160	1836
29	Sarah Thompson	160	1836
29	Alex. Work	200	1836
29	James H. Eaton	40	1836
30	Adam Conrad	353	1836
30	William Thompson	160	1836
30	Jonas Balyeat	193	1837
31	Jonas Balyeat	48	1837
31	Joseph Gleason	208	1837
31	Alex. Work	40	1837
31	Abigail Gleason	80	1837
31	Joseph Gleason	292	1838
31	William Watson	40	1838
32	Joseph Thompson	160	1836
32	Robert Thompson	160	1836
32	Uriah & A. Drumb	80	1836
32	Levi Drumb	80	1836
32	May Gleason	80	1838
32	Benjamin Harnley	80	1841
33	James Clendening	80	1836
33	Samuel P. Hedges	80	1836
33	John Montgomery	160	1836
33	Levi Saint	320	1836
34	James Montgomery	160	1836
34	William Thorn	80	1836
34	Thomas Thorn	120	1836
34	Benjamin Thorn	80	1836
34	James Simms	120	1838
34	Thomas Jacobs	40	1838
34	Peter Stump	40	1851
35	David Huelscher	160	1836
35	Charles Baker	160	1836
35	Arch. McCoy	160	1836
35	Joseph Saint	160	1836
36	Daniel Hipshire	80	1836
36	Aaron Hipshire	80	1836
36	John & Joshua Gossard	120	1836
36	Archibald Cooper	160	1836
36	Benjamin Harnley	80	1836

MARKS AND BRANDS FOR STOCK.

Early in the history of Pleasant township, each settler adopted some distinguishing mark

for his cattle, sheep and hogs, and these marks and brands were recorded as follows: Asa Cook,—a crop off the right ear; A. Brubaker,—two slits in the right ear; Joseph Brodnix,—a square crop off each ear and the end of the tail cut off; Aaron A. Bronson,—a crop off the left ear and a slit on the under side of the right ear; Jonathan Balyeat,—a slit in the right ear and on the under side of the left ear; Daniel Cook,—a crop off the right ear and a slit in the same; Samuel M. Clark, a slit in the left ear; John W. Clark,—a slit in the left ear; William A. Clark, a slit on the under side of the left ear; Joseph Clark,—a crop and half crop off the right ear; George S. Crafts,—a crop off the right ear and a slit in each ear; Joseph Collins,—a slit in each ear; William Davis,—a swallow fork in the right ear and a half crop off the under side of the left ear; Peres M. Dix,—a crop off the left ear and a hole in the right ear; Samuel Farnam,—a slit in the right ear; Solomon Farnam,—a slit in the right ear; Samuel Engleright,—a swallow fork in the left ear and a hole in the same; Enoch S. Edson,—two under bits out of the left ear; Benjamin Gleason,—a standing crop off the under side of the left ear; William Johns,—a square crop off the right ear; William Miller,—a crop off the right ear and a slit in the left ear; Smith Miller,—a crop off the right ear and a slit in the left ear; Thomas S. McKim,—a crop off and a slit in the right ear and a hole in the left ear; William Parent,—a slit in the left ear; Lyman J. Webber,—a swallow fork in the end of each ear; E. R. Wells,—a square crop off the left ear and a swallow fork in the right ear; J. C. Parkinson,—two slits in the left ear; William Thorn,—a crop and slit in the right ear and a hole in the left ear.

ENUMERATION OF YOUTHS.

Between the 1st and 20th of October, 1840, all the youths in the township, between the ages

of 4 and 20, unmarried, were enumerated. The results of such enumeration appear below, and indicate that the girls outnumbered the boys by seven, there being 36 of the former and 29 of the latter.

District No. 1.

Heads of Families	Males	Females
Samuel M. Clark	4	1
George McManima		1
Daniel Cook		2
Joseph Gleason	1	1
Lewis Stultz		1
William Johns	1	
J. W. Johns		1
Robert Gilliland	1	
	—	—
	7	7

District No. 2.

Heads of Families	Males	Females
William Miller	2	1
Samuel Maddox	2	1
Levi Sawyer		1
Nancy Bronson		4
	—	—
	4	7

District No. 3

Heads of Families	Males	Females
William Davis	3	4
Elisha Wells		2
Lyman S. Wells		1
Solomon Farnam	3	3
Stephen Gleason	1	4
Isaac Hagerman	3	3
Mrs. Gleason	1	
	—	—
	11	17

District No. 4.

Heads of Families	Males	Females
Aaron Hipshire	1	
Daniel Hipshire	4	1
William Thorn		2
Jacob Kyle	2	
John Myers		2
	—	—
	7	5

EARLY ELECTIONS AND OFFICIALS.

The first election held in Pleasant township for county officers was in October, 1837. The judges appointed were Daniel Cook, Levi Saw-

yer and Elisha Wells. Mr. Wells declined to serve and Stephen Gleason, who had only been a resident of the county three days, was appointed in his place. John F. Dodds and Asa Hipshire acted as clerks. A hat was used as a ballot-box. About the middle of the day, a fight occurred and the judges and clerks ran out to see the fight, carrying the hat with them. The election resulted that fall in the election of Robert Gilliland as county commissioner, James Gordon Gilliland as treasurer, and John F. Dodds as auditor.

At an election held April 6, 1840, the following officers were elected: Trustees—Lyman S. Wells, Samuel M. Clark and James T. Maddox; clerk, Thomas R. Mott; treasurer, Robert Gilliland; overseers of the poor—S. M. Clark and Daniel Cook; fence viewers—E. R. Wells, J. Q. Graves and Thomas Thorn; supervisors—District No. 1, Robert Gilliland, District No. 2, William Miller, District No. 3, J. H. Eaton, District No. 4, Benjamin Thorn.

At an election held October 13, 1840, for the election of two justices of the peace in Pleasant township, Joseph Gleason received 20 votes; Thomas Thorn, 21 votes; Stephen Gleason, 11 votes; Lyman S. Wells, 10 votes; and Samuel M. Clark and Samuel Maddox, each 1 vote. Joseph Gleason and Thomas Thorn were declared duly elected, and were commissioned one week later.

From the poll book of the election held in Pleasant township for State and county officers, October 18, 1840, it appears that there were 46 qualified electors, whose names were as follows: A. A. Alderman, Levi Sawyer, Lyman Elliott, George Baney, P. S. Russell, William Myers, Aaron Hipshire, P. Jacob Hines, J. W. Myers, Daniel Hipshire, Alex. York, Robert Gilliland, William Johns, John Smith, S. H. Alderman, William Davis, Mathew Flagg, S. M. Clark, Lyman S. Wells,

John Clayton, John Myers, T. R. Mott, John Hester, William Lewis, E. R. Wells, W. A. Wells, William Clayton, William Parent, Daniel Cook, Stephen Gleason, William Thorn, Jacob Kyle, Jacob Thorn, Isaac Daugherty, Joseph Gleason, Solomon Farnam, Isaac Shaffer, Enoch Hoaglin, Aaron Hoaglin, Thomas Thorn, George McManima, Henry Foster, L. McManima, Joshua Shaffer, Elisha Wells and Davis Fasnaught.

S. M. Clark, Lyman S. Wells and John Smith were judges, and Thomas R. Mott and Stephen Gleason, clerks.

On May 1, 1841, Elias Evers was commissioned justice of the peace.

At the election held April 4, 1842, the officers elected were: Trustees—Thomas Thorn, George McManima and Robert Miller; clerk, John C. Richey; treasurer, J. Hines; assessor, Isaac Daugherty.

At the election held April 3, 1843, these officers were elected: Trustees—William Johns, Lyman S. Wells and Alpheus Royce; clerk, Eben C. Royce; treasurer, Edward R. Wells; assessor, Isaac Daugherty.

On September 26, 1843, the trustees appointed John C. Richey township clerk, *vice* Eben C. Royce, removed from the township.

On October 28, 1843, Joseph Gleason was commissioned a justice of the peace.

The officers elected at the election held April 1, 1844, were: Trustees—Robert Gilliland, Lyman S. Wells and William Stripe; clerk, John C. Richey; treasurer, Walter Buckingham; assessor, Isaac Dougherty.

On April 7, 1845, these were the officers elected: Trustees—George McManima, Abraham Zimmerman and W. H. Parkinson; clerk, G. E. Burson; treasurer, William Stripe.

On July 18, 1845, Jacob Thorn was appointed clerk.

The election of April 6, 1846, resulted as

follows: Trustees—Robert Gilliland, George McManima and Abraham Zimmerman; clerk, Jacob Thorn (appointed in default of the clerk-elect to take the oath of office); treasurer, William Stripe.

EARLY TOWNSHIP FINANCES.

On March 7, 1842, were reported the receipts and expenditures of the township for the year commencing the first Monday in March, 1841, and ending the first Monday in March, 1842. The amount of taxes collected and drawn from the county treasurer was reported to be \$121.15. The following items were represented in

Expenditures.

To amount paid Daniel Cook for services as trustee	\$ 4.50
To amount paid Elias Evers, trustee.....	3.75
To amount paid Thomas Thorn, trustee.....	3.75
To cash paid S. M. Clark, treasurer.....	3.45
To cash paid William Thorn, supervisor.....	23.39
To cash paid J. Smith, supervisor	12.47
To cash paid School District No. 1.....	7.25
To cash paid School District No. 3.....	27.43
To cash paid William Thorn, District No. 1.....	3.75
To cash paid William Davis, District No. 3.....	.75
To cash paid Elias Evers, District No. 2.....	.75
To cash paid J. Gleason, clerk.....	3.75
Total	\$93.99

On March 6, 1843, the trustees met and proceeded to settle with the treasurer, who showed a balance of funds in hand, as follows: Township funds, notes and justice of the peace receipts, \$38.93; road funds, \$38.48; school funds, \$61.86; a total of \$139.27.

THE KEAR FAMILY.

Thomas R. Kear, one of the early settlers of Van Wert County, and one prominently connected with its early history, was born in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, April 27, 1806.

His father, John Kear, was a shipbuilder and sailor, as was his father before him, and was connected with the Reed family, of Baltimore, Maryland, in the building of ships and managing the same in mercantile business, for many years before and after the Revolutionary War. At Annapolis, Maryland, July 31, 1798, John Kear married Mary Reed, a sister of the two brothers with whom he was associated in business.

During the Revolutionary War John Kear worked in the shipyards, assisting in the building of some of the ships that did noble service in the war for freedom. During the War of 1812 he served as a private in Captain Holt's company, 8th Regiment of Virginia Militia. After the close of that war, he returned to Maryland and having to a considerable extent lost his health, with his family removed to Zanesville, Ohio, from which town he later removed to Licking County, Ohio, where he died November 31, 1820, leaving a widow and six children. Of the three daughters in the family, Eleanor married Richard Pring on August 26, 1819; Mary Ann married John Pring, a brother to Richard Pring; and Amelia married Frederick Baylor. Of the three sons, Thomas R. Kear is the principal subject of this sketch; John R. Kear died unmarried September 29, 1832; and William R. Kear married Mary Johnson, in Harrison township, Van Wert County, by whom he had several children—after her decease, he married her widowed sister, Mrs. Ann Foster, in Iowa or Nebraska.

Thomas R. Kear, as a boy and young man, was a sailor and worked as a ship carpenter. Removing to Licking County, Ohio, where his father had taken up his residence, he there with his brothers-in-law, John and Richard Pring, engaged in the work of millwrighting. As their business increased and pushed Westward they moved to Champaign County, Ohio, and

made that their home for some years. Here Thomas R. Kear met and married his wife, Catharine Frisinger, a daughter of Peter Frisinger, who fought in the Revolutionary War, and also in the War of 1812, in which he served as a private in Capt. Christopher Morris' company of Light Infantry, 4th Regiment of Virginia Militia, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Huston and Lieutenant Colonel Wooding. Peter Frisinger died in the service January 4, 1815, and was buried at Norfolk, Virginia. Mrs. Kear had five sisters, who married and lived to the time of their death in Champaign County, Ohio, where they left many descendants, who still live in that county. Her brothers, William, Jacob, Noah, Peter and John, moved to Mercer and Van Wert counties, Ohio, between the years 1819 and 1835. John and Peter coming to Van Wert county in 1830. Many descendants of these brothers live in these counties at this time.

In 1829 Thomas R. Kear, with his brothers-in-law—the Prings—went to Willshire township, Van Wert County, to build a mill at the village of Willshire, but it was not thought advisable to build it on account of the scarcity of cleared lands, so they went over into the State of Indiana and built a mill at or near Muncie, and later one at Pleasant Mills (Mollica) and then returned to Champaign County for a season. In 1835 Thomas R. Kear moved to Willshire township and took up his residence there, working at the carpenter trade and attending to an undertaking business until he moved to the village of Van Wert, when the county seat was moved to that place. He was the second sheriff of Van Wert County, and held that office at intervals for several years. He was an active State militiaman, and when war broke out between the United States and Mexico he was appointed by Governor Mordecai Bartley, May 1, 1846, aide-de-camp, 2nd

Brigade, 12th Division of Ohio Militia, for the term of six years. He was with his regiment to the close of the war, but saw no active service, as they were not taken out of the State.

Mr. Kear built the first mill in Van Wert, for James Watson Riley, who had contracted with the Board of County Commissioners to build a mill at Van Wert, as one of the conditions and considerations for moving the county seat to Van Wert. John and Richard Pring helped him to build this mill, and it was purchased, and operated as the first mill in Van Wert, by Samuel Clark, one of the oldest residents of the village. Thomas R. Kear and Joseph Gleason built the first steam mill in Van Wert. Later Mr. Kear purchased the interest of Mr. Gleason, and operated the property as a combined saw and grist-mill until the year 1856, when it was purchased by Dr. William Smith.

Mr. Kear died in May, 1864, leaving a widow (Catherine Frisinger Kear), who survived him many years. He was also survived by eight children. Of the daughters, Mary Margaret married Jackson Pence, and had seven

children; Lydia Ann first married Emery R. Underwood (who died in the army in 1862 or 1863, leaving two children) then married Thomas Malloy, by whom she had one child, and finally became the wife of Benjamin Baltzell; Amanda Ann married William P. Wolcott, late recorder of Van Wert County, by whom she had two sons who arrived at maturity—Harry K. and Edward W. Wolcott, now a prominent law firm of Norfolk, Virginia; Sarah Ellen married George V. Asher, of Licking County, Ohio, and to them were born three children. Of the sons, John J. married Mahala Boles and to them were born eight children; Benjamin F. (who served three years in the Civil War) married Alice Beagles, by whom he had three children—after her decease married Mrs. Jane Fowler, a war widow with two children, by whom he had five children; Robert Thomas married Catharine Tope and to them were born five children; Wiley McDonald married Malinda Romig, of Brandon, Iowa, and to whom were born seven children, the eldest being Lieut. C. R. Kear, United States Navy.

CHAPTER IX

YORK TOWNSHIP

*Organization—First Settlers—An Early Election—Some of the Original Land Entries—
Jonestown—Incidents of Pioneer Life—Pioneer Recollections.*

York township was set off as a civil township at a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held at Van Wert, June 3, 1837, and the qualified electors were ordered to meet at the house of Sylvester R. Woolery on the 15th of June for the purpose of electing township officers.

FIRST SETTLERS.

John Arnold was one of the earlier settlers in York township, having settled south of Venedocia in 1836 on what is now known as the Alban farm. Among the early settlers at that time were Lewis Culver, Asa Culver, John Keith, Joshua Goodwin, Jacob Goodwin, David Walters, William Morman, Leonard Varner, John Powers, James Wilson, Sylvester R. Woolery, Samuel Moore, Robert Thomas, Furman Jackson, John Heath (father of William Heath), John Bevington, John McCollum, Evan B. Jones, Joshua Bridenstein and George Reece.

Edward Smith came from Champaign county in 1838. He served in Company M, Second Indiana Heavy Artillery, during the War of the Rebellion. Robert Thomas came to Van Wert County in 1836. Jesse Atkinson was one of the early settlers, coming here in

1836. He was one of the first county commissioners.

John M. Jackson was born in Madison County, February 2, 1835, and came with his parents to this country in 1836. His father was a chair-maker and found sale for his product at Fort Wayne, where he took his chairs on rafts. John Bevington was born September 22, 1807, came to this county in 1832 and died July 19, 1841. He had seven children.

John F. Baxter came to this county with his parents (Thomas and Nancy Baxter) in 1848. On July 21, 1862, at the age of 18, he enlisted in Company A, 52nd Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and served until the close of the war, being mustered out June 17, 1865. Alexander W. Brown was born December 26, 1826. In 1846 he came to York township, where he spent the rest of his life in farming.

John Heath became a resident of Mercer County at an early day. His son, William Heath, was born while his parents were occupying an Indian camp in Mercer County. William Heath is a resident of York township at a good old age and lives on some land that his father entered in 1835.

About 1840 to 1847 the families of John Rich, Jesse Tomlinson, Daniel Burris, Jacob Miller, Levi Rowland, Thomas Broadnax, Sam

uel Curl, John W. Conn, Andrew Putnam, Jonas Harp, William Carter, Jesse Clark, Jesse Atkinson, Conrad Hunstead and John Houtser came to York township.

The first grist-mill was a horse-power mill on the north bank of Jennings Prairie, and was owned by Mr. Clark. It was afterward removed by Lewis Culver and remodeled. The second one was built by William Bebb near Venedocia. The first gunsmith was John Heath. The first couple married were Lewis Tomlinson and Rachel Boroff. The first school house was built on the land of Jesse Atkinson.

AN EARLY ELECTION.

At the election for State and county officers held October 18, 1840, the number of qualified electors was 23; their names were as follows: Francis Elliott, Robert Thomas, John McCollum, David Walters, Jesse Atkinson, John Arnold, Joshua Goodwin, Joseph Clark, Jacob Ross, Jacob Miller, Joseph Moore, James Walters, William Marrs, John Heath, Lewis Culver, Josiah Clink, Jesse Tomlinson, John Keith, Tobias Moore, Joshua Bridenstein, William Morman, Adam Wolford and Sylvester R. Woolery. The judges of election were John Arnold, Sylvester R. Woolery and Joshua Goodwin. The vote is shown on a preceding page, in Chapter V.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
1	James McCray	163	1836
1	John Zimmerman	173	1836
1	John Weikart	160	1836
1	Alex. Cheevers	80	1836
1	Michael Todd	80	1836
2	Michael Yoakman	87	1836
2	Fred Cary	87	1836
2	James H. Young	160	1836
2	Andrew Foster	160	1836

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
2	H. D. V. Williams	174	1841
3	Daniel Canfield	80	1836
3	John F. Edgar	334	1836
3	Robert Edgar	254	1836
4	Samuel D. Edgar	334	1836
4	James Donaldson	334	1836
5	Henry Zimmerman	174	1836
5	John Gongway	160	1836
5	John M. Donaldson	40	1836
5	Alex. Biddle	174	1836
6	Samuel Painter	332	1836
6	Joseph Nofzgar	348	1836
7	Andrew Cochel	80	1836
7	Theo. B. Thomas	80	1836
7	Levi Rowland	328	1836
7	James Casteel	124	1837
7	Evan B. Jones	41	1839
8	Evan B. Jones	120	1836
8	John Weikart	40	1836
8	James G. Donaldson	320	1836
8	Alex. Biddle	160	1836
9	Evan B. Jones	560	1836
9	A. Cochel & H. Tolerton	80	1836
10	James Hooper	320	1836
10	Samuel Francher	160	1836
10	Peter Bevelthymmer	160	1836
11	James M. Young	160	1836
11	Andrew Foster	80	1836
11	David Cook	160	1836
11	George McMarrian	80	1836
12	Robert Lisle	640	1835
13	Lewis Culver	200	1833
13	William Morman	240	1835
13	John Arnold	120	1836
13	John L. Harter	80	1837
14	Benjamin Strothers	320	1836
14	Samuel Stiles	160	1836
14	James Walters	40	1836
14	Christian Woods	80	1837
14	Philip Srock	40	1836
15	Andrew Cochel	160	1836
15	Daniel Arnold	160	1836
15	Joseph Saint	240	1836
15	James Wilson	40	1836
15	John Willberg	40	1841
16	Robert McQuoron	80	1836
16	George Clouse	80	1836
16	Jacob Dibert	80	1836
16	Francis Feltus	80	1836
16	F. C. Elson	80	1836
16	Robert Wolcott	80	1836
17	Evan B. Jones	320	1836
17	John M. Donaldson	160	1836

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.	SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
17	Hugh Lynn	160	1836	28	John Towns	40	1836
18	Evan B. Jones	361	1836	28	Joshua Bridenstein	160	1836
18	Henry Newman	165	1836	28	Daniel Barris	40	1837
18	Josiah Casteel	40	1836	28	Jesse Atkinson	40	1835
18	James Ross	82	1836	28	John Cost	40	1836
19	Henry Newman	165	1836	29	Jesse Atkinson	80	1836
19	George B. Ellis	246	1838	29	Sylvester R. Woolery	80	1836
19	John Hughes	80	1838	29	John McCollum	40	1836
19	James Clingan	160	1839	29	John Sherwood	240	1836
20	John Heath	80	1836	29	Henry Newman	160	1836
20	Andrew Coil	120	1836	29	C. Elliott	40	1839
20	Joseph Heath	40	1836	30	John Stacts	167	1836
20	George Reece	80	1836	30	Abram Rankin	160	1836
20	Henry Newman	160	1836	30	Wesley Miner	160	1836
20	James Lavin	160	1836	30	Eli M. Deniston	83	1837
21	John Towns	200	1836	30	George M. Ellis	83	1837
21	Robert Thomas	40	1836	31	Jesse Tomlinson	80	1834
21	Thomas Towns	40	1836	31	John Heath	242	1835
21	James Lavin	40	1837	31	John Sheets	246	1835
21	John Powers	80	1838	31	Francis Elliott	82	1838
21	Tobias Moore	80	1839	32	John Tomlinson	160	1835
21	John Cunningham	40	1839	32	Jesse Atkinson	120	1835
21	George Knox	80	1839	32	John McNeil	80	1836
22	Reuben Waites	80	1836	32	Furman Jackson	40	1836
22	William McClure	40	1836	32	J. W. Morton	80	1836
22	Levi Saint	240	1836	32	William Carder	40	1837
22	William Lynn	40	1836	32	John Ross	40	1837
22	Mary E. Reed	80	1839	32	John McCollum	40	1836
23	Levi Culver	80	1836	32	Elizabeth Bevington	40	1831
23	Samuel Stiles	40	1836	33	James Mark	240	1833
23	Alex. McVickers	120	1836	33	Sarah Mark	40	1834
23	John A. Freeman	160	1836	33	Thomas Hughes	160	1840
23	Lantz Shannon	160	1836	33	L. Bawe	80	1840
23	James Mitchell	80	1836	33	John Griffith	80	1830
24	Washington Mark	320	1832	33	John Morris	40	1830
24	Wesley Rush	200	1833	34	Lucinda Mark	80	1833
24	Ebenezer Culver	80	1834	34	James Mark	120	1833
24	Lewis Culver	40	1834	34	Matilda Mark	40	1835
25	Washington Mark	120	1832	34	George Vanemon	120	1830
25	John Keith	240	1832	34	William Lake	120	1830
25	Jacob Goodwin	40	1837	34	A. McClung	40	1837
25	John Keith	80	1838	34	John House	80	1838
25	Isaac Miles	80	1838	34	Washington Mark	40	1830
25	Edward Williams	40	1839	35	Robert Leslie	320	1835
25	Jacob Goodwin	40	1831	35	Jonathan Vanemon	160	1833
26	Samuel McClain	320	1839	35	James Edgar	160	1830
26	John Smith	320	1836	36	William Marrs, Jr.	240	1835
27	William McClain	480	1836	36	Robert Stran	80	1830
27	Samuel McClain	160	1836	36	William Farris	320	1830
28	Robert Thomas	80	1835				
28	Samuel Moore	120	1830				
28	Jesse Miller	40	1830				
28	Sylvester R. Woolery	80	1836				

JONESTOWN

Or Tokio, as the postoffice is called, is a

small village on the "Clover Leaf" Railroad, located in a good farming section.

INCIDENTS OF PIONEER LIFE.

Samuel Arnold, of Ridge township, a son of John Arnold, says that the wolves were plenty at that time and he recollects that one night, after they had butchered, they were cutting up the hogs within a couple rods of the house when the wolves came close up to where the men were working and howled and he was afraid to go to the house which was only two rods away. He says Clarissa Gleason was his first school teacher—that was in 1839 or 1840—and that he has a card of merit that she gave him, which is in her own handwriting.

A short time after Levi Rowland settled in York township he had a dream that in crossing the prairie he had been attacked by a wolf. The next day he started out to hunt his cows. Hearing the bell on the opposite side of the prairie, he had gone a short distance, when he recalled his dream. Going back to the woods he cut a heavy hickory club and started out in the tall grass after the cows. He had gone but a short distance when he came upon a large wolf that showed fight, which Mr. Rowland killed with his club. He always felt that the dream had been sent as a warning.

In 1840 the Bickfords settled in York township. They had provided themselves with two barrels of flour and other provisions in proportion. Frank says that if it had not been for what they brought with them they would have starved. Their nearest neighbors, with the exception of one family, were three miles distant. After they had been here some time, the boys became very tired of salt meat. One evening Levi Rowland came to their house with a saddle of venison on his shoulder, and told Mr. Bickford that he had put the forequarters

in the fork of a tree, and that if the latter would go and get it he might have it. But Mr. Bickford was no woodsman and, being afraid that he might get off the trail, would not venture. But Frank and his brother Will wanted some fresh meat and said they would go. Frank was 8 and Will was 12. They took a butcher knife and found the venison. Each cut a shoulder and started for home. It was then past sundown. They had gone but a short distance when they heard the wolves coming. They did some "tall" running and the wolves followed them almost to the door, but they saved the venison.

PIONEER RECOLLECTIONS.

BY J. B. BRODNIN.

So far as history of York township in the early days is concerned, there is but little of it speaking after the manner of men. There was not much in the township except primeval forests filled with bear, wolves, deer, raccoons, porcupines, wild cats, catamounts, etc.

My father was born and raised in the "City of Brotherly Love." In 1836 with his family he left Philadelphia for Dayton, Ohio, crossing the Alleghany Mountains in a Virginia schooner, drawn by a team of mules, and proceeding from Pittsburgh to Cincinnati on a boat on the Ohio River. From Cincinnati to Dayton, and from there to Yellow Springs in Greene County, the journey was made in wagons, finally going from Yellow Springs to the Long Prairie in York township, Van Wert County, in 1839. The family lived in a pole pen on the farm of Evan B. Jones, while a log cabin on the east half of the southwest quarter of section 3, York township, was being built.

When we were unloaded on the Long Prairie, father and mother both cried, and suffered the man that moved them all that time

had—\$25—to take them back to Dayton where he lived. This the man refused to do on account of the terrible roads.

With the assistance of neighbors living 10 miles away, my father built a log cabin 18 feet square in a dense forest, without a road to any place. The nearest neighbors was two and a half miles away; David W. McCoy and Daniel Beard, three miles; Evan B. Jones, three miles; Levi Rowland, four miles; John Arnold and Leonard Varner, three and a half miles each. There was a village of Wyandot Indians on the Little Auglaize a mile and a quarter from us. They were very kind and hospitable.

In December we moved into the log cabin, half of it floored with puncheons and with a bed quilt serving for a door. There was a fireplace five by seven feet in dimensions, a mud-back wall and a stick chimney. When night would come, the wolves would approach the house and scratch and howl until we could hear nothing else. For 10 years between the months of November and February, from sunset until sunrise, nothing could be heard except the howling of the wolves and the hooting of the owls.

If men and women had had the same kind of religion then that they have now, my father and mother and their family would have starved. But in those days all things that men had were in common. No one said that aught that he had was his own. While one had a peck of corn meal or a pound of pork, all had.

At Piqua was the nearest mill. Many a bushel of corn we pounded on an oak block with an iron wedge and made it into a dodger or mush and ate it with a chunk of venison or pork. Then Aaron Hipshire got a two-burr hand-mill and with hard work two men could grind two or three bushel a day. Then John Pool put up a horse-mill and two horses could grind a bushel an hour. That was good. In

1844 Daniel Walters built a little water-mill where Venedocia now stands, the then outlet of the Coil Prairie. That was fine. He could grind wheat, but one had to bolt it by hand.

As for schools, there was not one in the township until 1843, and then only one for the whole township. In 1839 the heads of the families in the township were Levi Rowland, Evan B. Jones, John McCollum, John Heath, Jesse Tomlinson, R. Ross, Leonard Varner, George Wooten, Robert Thomas, Benjamin Griffin, Lewis Culver, John Arnold, W. H. Peaseley and John W. Conn. Daniel Bickford came in 1840. Many and trying were the hardships in those days, much harder for us than for others. Father was a French Huguenot and had never done a day's work; mother was Scotch and was also raised in the city. Many were the sacks of meal and chunks of pork and other things given us by David W. McCoy, Daniel Beard, Thomas Pollock and others. Never were there truer, braver and kinder men settled in a county than the early settlers of Van Wert county. In the early history of the county they were bound together as one man. Above all, religion was supreme; there was preaching in the little log cabins, but no religious discussions. A calico dress and sun-bonnet was the finest apparel for a woman; a linsey wammus and a coonskin cap for a man. There was more genuine heartfelt religion at one of those old pioneer meetings than there is in a whole year now. People would go for miles to attend meeting, frequently taking a sack of jerk, a chunk of pork and some meal and staying two and three days. They would sing and pray and shout—I can hear them yet singing, "Sing on, pray on, we are gaining," "O Hallelujah! the power of the Lord is coming down, O Hallelujah!" If we had more old-time religion today we would be a happier people.

In those days hunting and fishing were the

chief pursuits of life, for game and fish were abundant. To raise a crop some member of the family had to stand guard from sowing to gathering, or the deer, coons, squirrels, turkeys and birds would get it all. But when such men as the Gillilands, Hills, Stacys, Kings, Ramseys, McCoys, Beards, DeCamps, Pollocks and their wives and many others that space will not permit me to name settle a country, it must prosper. As far as I know, the heads of those families of 1839 are all gone to their rewards. Some of their children, like myself, are yet lingering on the brink. Nearly if

not all, like myself, have reached their three score and ten. It is no more the scenes of our boyhood—I am led to say, “Backward, turn backward, O time in thy flight, make me a boy again just for tonight.” With all the hardships, many and dear are the fond recollections of those days.

The great majority of my early associates have crossed the mystic river, a few are waiting to join the mighty throng on the other shore. Time and space would fail me to tell the many thrilling incidents that occurred in the days when this region was being reclaimed.

CHAPTER X

JENNINGS TOWNSHIP

Organization—First Arrivals—Names of Voters in 1841—Some of the Original Land Entries—Magill, the Wolf Hunter—The Villages of Monticello and Venedocia—The Welsh Settlement.

At a session of the commissioners of Van Wert County, held June 5, 1837, it was ordered that township 3 south, ranges 3 and 4 east, be known as Jennings township. Township 3 south, range 4 east, then was composed of 36 sections, a regular congressional township. But in 1848 the county of Auglaize was organized and in the reapportionment 18 sections were taken off the east side and attached to Allen County, and nine sections taken off of Union township, Mercer County, and attached to Jennings, thus making it nine miles north and south, and three miles east and west or only 27 sections in extent.

FIRST ARRIVALS.

In 1825 John K. Harter, William Harter, George Harter and Peter Harter settled in Jennings township. In 1830 came John Keith and Silas Mills. In the next three years came Edward Williams, Oliver Ingraham, Wm. Reed, James Reed, Quinton Reed, David Reed, Daniel Walters, John Fortney, Benjamin Griffin, Benjamin Griffin, Jr., John Duncan, Washington Mark, James Wilson, Nathaniel Griffin, Claudius Griffin, William Carter and John Brooms.

NAMES OF VOTERS IN 1841.

As shown by the poll book of an election held in Jennings township on the 12th of October, 1841, there were 14 electors whose names follow: Daniel Reed, John Frazier, Quinton Reed, James Reed, Peter Harter, Adam Wolford, George W. Griffin, Oliver Ingraham, Elisha Rigdon, John K. Harter, Washington Mark, William Reed, Edward Williams and John Keith. The clerks of the election were William Reed and Oliver Ingraham, and the judges were Washington Mark, Quinton Reed and James Reed.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SFC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
4	John Fortner	162	1848
4	Michael Stippick	60	1848
4	Samuel Arnold	160	1848
4	Faver Myers	40	1848
4	John Robling	40	1848
4	Jacob Reider	40	1849
4	G. Prichard	40	1849
4	John M. Hertz	80	1849
5	David Thatcher	325	1849
5	Israel Harris	320	1849
5	Thomas R. Jones	100	1849
6	Jacob Grubbs	100	1849
6	James Reed	160	1849

AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

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SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
6	Milton T. Ross	95	1836
6	James Mewhirter	95	1837
7	James B. Britton	193	1836
7	Jacob Hammon	193	1836
7	Henry P. Baker	80	1836
7	William Reed	160	1836
7	Alex. Taylor	80	1836
8	Daniel Reed	160	1836
8	Marion Mewhirter	160	1836
8	M. Berry	160	1849
8	Samuel Doyle	160	1849
9	John Callahan	80	1849
9	John A. Arnold	160	1849
9	Richard McCarty	40	1849
9	William H. Jones	40	1851
9	George Blank	40	1851
9	John Stork	40	1851
9	Jacob Lux	80	1851
9	John F. Vleke	80	1851
9	John Devore	80	1851
17	J. Reed	160	1836
17	Joseph Blackburn	80	1836
17	John Halsey	80	1836
17	Samuel Doyle	160	1849
17	John Berry	160	1849
18	Washington Mark	627	1832
18	Foster Griffin	80	1832
18	Jacob Carr	99	1836
18	Alex. Taylor	40	1837
18	J. B. Halsey	40	1838
18	John Arnold	47	1849
20	Benjamin Griffin	160	1832
20	Nathaniel Griffin	160	1832
20	Peter Harter	40	1832
20	Jacob Puterbaugh	120	1834
20	Foster Griffin	40	1834
20	William Ullery	40	1834
20	George Harter	40	1834
21	John Walters	160	1838
21	Alex. Walters	80	1838
21	M. Berry	160	1848
21	E. Rigdon	80	1849
21	William McHollister	160	1851
28	James Weatherhead	160	1834
28	Allen L. Mark	80	1851
28	Samuel Daniels	80	1851
28	T. W. Kidd	80	1851
28	George W. Lance	40	1851
28	Fred Pridgeman	40	1851
28	Fred Marquand	160	1853
29	Josiah Clink	160	1838
29	William Williams	40	1851

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
29	Peter Harter	40	1851
29	James Williams	80	1851
29	Abraham Williams	120	1851
29	Henry Burnett	200	1851
30	James Mark	40	1852
30	John Keith	272	1852
30	Washington Mark	272	1852
30	Edward Williams	40	1854
30	Henry Burnett	40	1850
31	Levi Patrick	47	1834
31	Moses Goodwin	46	1856
31	Samuel Harley	179	1856
31	Harrison Maltbie	120	1856
31	Hiram Maltbie	160	1856
31	G. Keith	40	1858
32	David Wolf	120	1850
32	J. Perry	40	1850
32	Fred S. Bellis	40	1850
32	Welsey Binner	80	1850
32	J. Keith	80	1850
32	W. W. Watts	80	1850
32	Joshua Goodwin	80	1850
32	Amos Goodwin	80	1850
32	Isaac Price	40	1850
33	James Harrod	80	1851
33	Harris Wells	240	1851
33	Jacob Cook	40	1851
33	J. Keith	80	1851
33	Levi Topper	80	1852
33	Charles C. Marshall	80	1853
33	Henry Burnett	40	1853
4	David M. Price	79	1851
4	John Casebeer	80	1851
4	Richard Hance	120	1851
4	Richard S. Hance	120	1851
4	Lemon Field	157	1851
4	J. S. Panabaker	78	1851
5	Robert Stram	317	1855
5	Samuel G. Graybill	157	1850
5	P. S. Cable	160	1850
6	Joseph DeLong	78	1855
6	Thomas Nickel	78	1856
6	Henry Reichelderfer	377	1856
6	William Howell	160	1850
7	E. Chalfant	80	1856
7	Benjamin Lloyd	80	1850
7	Simon Jennings	101	1850
7	June Wallace	160	1850
7	William Snods	101	1850
8	John Aile	320	1850
8	Andrew Hillman	320	1850
9	Andrew Hillman	320	1850

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
9	James Lowery	80	1851
9	John Snitzer	80	1851
9	Christ Haik	80	1851
9	Elias Bayman	80	1852
16	Benjamin Griffin	420	1853
16	William J. Coil	160	1853
17	James Jones	160	1836
17	William Gibson	80	1836
17	Austin Jones	80	1836
17	Adam Thompson	160	1836
17	Fleming Graham	40	1836
17	David Sheets	40	1836
18	Benjamin Griffin	127	1835
18	Joseph Wilson	94	1835
18	John McClintock	129	1836
18	Jacob Halsey	80	1836
18	Austin Jones	160	1836
18	Joseph Hayden	47	1836
18	John Stager	80	1836
18	P. J. Pfaltzgroff	96	1837
18	Michael Fisher	96	1837
18	Moses Folz		
18	Adam Ephraims	96	1837
18	E. M. Phelps	96	1839

MAGILL, THE WOLF HUNTER.

Among the earlier settlers was a man by the name of Magill, a great wolf hunter. At one time he found a wolf den in a hollow tree, which was entered several feet above the ground. McGill, having seen an old wolf going away, supposed the coast to be clear and determined to go in and get the young. After he had climbed down part way, he reached reached down with a stick, which was snapped off as smooth as if cut with a knife. McGill concluded to wait for a more convenient season. He went back later and secured his game.

He had a pet wolf that he had raised which was trained so that he could make it howl whenever he desired. In the season that the wolves had their young, he would go out into the woods, wherever he thought it likely there be a den, and about the hour that the old she wolf would be suckling her young he would have his

wolf set up a howl, which would be answered by the old she. He would camp near by and in the morning would look for the den and would seldom fail finding it. Once he was in the north part of the country and had located a den in this way. The next morning he saw an old wolf standing by a hollow log and shot it, and then started to crawl in to get the young ones. He had taken the precaution to take his butcher knife in his hand. When he had crawled some distance, the old she wolf made a rush to get out past him and he plunged the knife into it as it crowded past. He caught five young ones and the old she died at the mouth of the log from the wound inflicted by the knife thrust. Thus he had seven wolves for that day's work. Wolf scalps were worth \$4 apiece, which made a good day's haul.

His pet wolf followed him like a dog all over the country and was as kind and gentle as a common cur. But the children would scamper for their mothers when they heard that Magill was coming with his wolf.

MONTICELLO.

We find this thriving little village situated on the C., H. & D. Railway four miles west of Spencerville, Allen county. Some of the finest farms in the county are in this section, as is evidenced by the fact that they support two elevators in the village. C. Slentz, one of the old settlers of this section, owning the land where the village is located, gave the railroad the right of way through his farm, was the first postmaster, the first railroad agent and the first merchant in the village and has been identified with all the interests of the village and surrounding country. He contributed liberally of time and money for the erection of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is an elder. But, not



ZION WELSH CALVINISTIC METHODIST CHURCH, YORK TOWNSHIP



SALEM WELSH CALVINISTIC METHODIST CHURCH, NEWPORT

confining his liberality to his own denomination he also contributed liberally to the building of the United Brethren Church. • He has been an advocate of good roads and can now enjoy rides over good pikes to Mendon and Spencerville. Mr. Slentz is of German parentage and has been a resident of Van Wert County over 50 years. He purchased his present farm (80 acres) in the woods for \$500. This has been cleared and improved, and could not be bought today for \$10,000. Besides, Mr. Slentz has considerable town property. After clearing up his farm and spending 16 years in mercantile life, he has now retired.

VENEDOCIA.

Near the north end of the township line, between York and Jennings townships, is the village of Venedocia. The village and the community surrounding it for miles in each direction is a Welsh settlement of energetic and thrifty citizen, whose fine farms and handsome buildings are monuments to their industry and good management.

The first Welsh settlers were the three families of William Bebb, Thomas Morris and Richard Jervis, who came to America from North Wales and located in Van Wert County in April, 1848. Of these three pioneer families, only two persons—Richard Jervis and Mrs. Laura Bebb Jones—are now (1906) living. The William Bebb named above was a first cousin to Governor William Bebb, which may have been the influence that caused the little colony to locate in Ohio.

Religious services were held in one of the log cabins on the very first Sunday after their arrival, and the Sunday and midweek services in the Welsh language have been constantly and faithfully maintained for 58 years. The jubilee year (1898) was celebrated by the ded-

ication of a \$20,000 church which is a fine church building.

As the neighbors increased in number and the borders of the settlement widened, the distance became too great for the farthest away to worship at Salem Church in Venedocia, so branch churches were established.—Zion, in York township, and Horeb, in Jennings township,—at both of which points the old churches have been replaced with fine new buildings of brick and stone, erected within this 20th century.

Counting the English Presbyterian Church that was dedicated in November, 1896, four churches have been erected in this farming community within the last 10 years at a cost of about \$41,000. These facts plainly prove that the Welshman is fond of sermon and song. One organization of which the Welsh of Venedocia are truly proud is the Venedocia Male Chorus, which has won many prizes in musical contests of other States, as well as in the larger cities of Ohio, and whose fine singing was an attractive feature of one Winona Bible Conference.

The large frame building now owned by the Venedocia Male Chorus and known as Cambrian Hall was formerly the church of the place until removed to make room for the present magnificent structure. In its day it was fully up to date. An accident occurred at the raising of this church, and the marvelous thing about the accident is that no lives were lost. When in the act of lifting the heavy roof timbers into position, the beams on which they were standing broke and eight men, mingled with plank, pike-poles and plunder, fell 40 feet among the joists below. If the eight had been instantly killed, the surprise would have been less than to know that all recovered and some were only slightly injured. The men who had this thrilling experience were: Rev. J. P.

Morgan, D. W. Evans, William E. Jones, Hugh E. Evans, Jonathan Jones, William Finifrock, David M. Jones and John Breese. The last two mentioned had broken ribs and a broken thigh, and life hung in the balance for many weeks.

When the bugle call sounded for volunteers, the Welsh boys were found as patriotic as any in the land, and promptly followed the flag into the field of battle.

When the 118th Regiment, Ohio Vol. Inf., recruited in Venedocia, Moses Parry, David R. Owens, John Hughes, John Jervis Jones, Lewis Thomas and Jonathan Jones shouldered their muskets and marched to the front, the first three named never to return. Two more have since crossed the silent river, and only John Jervis Jones is now living. Other Welshmen in Van Wert County who bravely served their country in the terrible Civil War of 1861-65 are: Hugh E. Evans, Richard Lloyd, Hugh T. Thomas, W. J. Bebb, Owen Morris, Edward T. Jones, and David E. Evans, of Venedocia; James Thomas, Richard T. Hughes, William

J. Hughes (the father of Hon. W. T. Hughes) and Lucius Price, of Elgin; and William Jones, Richard Breese and Evan A. Evans, of Van Wert.

The first merchants in Venedocia were Rowland J. Whittington and Evan A. Evans. A condition in the deed for the first lot in the town site shows the high moral purpose of the pioneers. They had in mind the future welfare of coming generations. Instead of taking chances on Beale laws and Brannock bills, they inserted a clause in the deed forbidding the keeping or selling of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. The deed recites that if the premises, or any part thereof, shall be used for such purposes the title reverts to the original owner. This deed is dated November 11, 1865, and signed by Jane Bebb Evans (a daughter of William Bebb) and her husband, D. W. Evans, esq. The precedent has been followed by inserting this condition in nearly all the deeds of the town ever since. It is a thoughtful precaution and wise provision, worthy of emulation and imitation.

CHAPTER XI

HARRISON TOWNSHIP

Organization—First Settlers—List of Electors in 1840—Some of the Original Land Entries—Pioneer Reminiscences—An Indian Sherlock Holmes—An Early Marriage in Harrison Township—A Pioneer Methodist Church—Harrison Baptist Church—St. Thomas' Lutheran Church—German Evangelical St. Paul Church—The Hertz Family—Henry Showalter.

On March 27, 1839, a petition was presented to the Board of County Commissioners, asking that a new township be set off and called Harrison. It was ordered that township 2 south, range 1 east, and township 1 south, range 1 east, be organized under the name of Harrison township and that, when said territory should again be divided, township 2 south, range 1 east, should hold the name.

And it was further ordered that the auditor notified the electors of said township to meet on Thursday, April 11, 1839, at the house of Henry A. Lords, for the purpose of electing their officers.

FIRST SETTLERS.

The actual settlers that came in between the years 1836 and 1840 were about as follows:

1836.—Joseph Johnson, Davis Johnson, Abel Johnson, Abel Johnson, Jr., and Jesse Foster.

1837.—William Johns, J. W. Johns, James Foster, Robert Manley, Allen Walters, Joseph Osborn, John McPherson and H. A. Lords.

1838.—M. F. Richey (from Crawford County), Peter Hertz (from Holmes County), J. R. Glenn and Clark Glenn (from Jefferson County), Amasa and H. C. Preston, E. M. Jones, Jacob and Eli Bauserman, Asa Cook, Philip Kilmer, A. Whitmarsh, David Richey, George and Erastus Lynch and Peter Maddox.

1839.—H. G. Germann and sons—Jacob, Charles, Peter, Henry and John; Peter A. Germann, M. and J. Kreischer, William and John Bowman, Fred Myers, F. Files, Philip and George Reidenbach, Henry Showalter, Thomas Calender and others.

LIST OF ELECTORS IN 1840.

The following list of 33 electors was recorded in the poll book of Harrison township for the election held on the 13th of October, 1840: Joseph Johnson, Davis Johnson, M. F. Richey, Erastus Lincoln, John Hudspeth, George Lincoln, Elijah Baubeen, William Bower, Jonathan Lewis, Amasa Preston, Clark Glenn, Asa Cook, Rejoice Cook, John Mc-

Pherson, Abel Johnson, Peter Maddox, Edwin G. Jones, Josiah Foster, James R. Glenn, Norman C. Preston, Jacob Stamm, John M. Lords, Noah Banker, Joseph H. Osborn, John S. Lords, Robert Manley, Allen Walters, John Manley, Jacob Bauserman, Jr., Frederick Myers, William Glenn, and Simon Wyant. The clerks of election were William Bower and Clark Glenn, and the judges, M. F. Richey, Amos Preston and Robert Baxter.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
1	Philip Klimmer	320	1838
1	Jonathan Wilkin	160	1838
1	James McConnell	162	1849
2	John Stamm	78	1838
2	Nicholas Reidenbach	78	1838
2	Philip Klimmer	316	1838
2	Peter Hertz	160	1838
3	David Johns	80	1837
3	James A. Kail	80	1837
3	John Hudspeth	40	1838
3	Davis Johnson	80	1838
3	John Bissant	80	1838
3	William Bissant	80	1838
3	George Lincoln	80	1838
3	William McKean	80	1838
3	Daniel Miner	40	1840
4	David Johns	160	1837
4	Jacob W. Johns	80	1837
4	John Hudspeth	40	1837
4	Philip Kyle	80	1839
4	M. F. Richey	40	1839
4	John Gundy	40	1841
4	Michael Barton	160	1851
4	Michael Bowers	40	1851
5	Eli Wilkins	40	1838
5	Reuben Archer	40	1838
5	William Lyons	160	1839
5	Philip Bowers	80	1840
5	Edmund Ferral	242	1840
6	Conrad Yarriman	303	1838
6	John B. Vanemon	80	1838
6	John Sheets	143	1839
6	Robert Vanemon	80	1839
7	John Sheets	142	1838
7	Abraham Brana	302	1838
7	Zach. Tindall	40	1838

7	William Tindall	80	1838
7	John Boyd	40	1838
8	L. E. Hertz	160	1838
8	John Lords	120	1838
8	Henry Lords	80	1838
8	Jonathan Hammel	120	1838
8	Michael Harrod	120	1838
8	Andrew Cotterell	40	1845
9	M. F. Richey	160	1837
9	John Pontius	160	1837
9	John Lords	120	1838
9	Aaron Pancake	160	1838
9	M. F. Richey	40	1839
10	Joseph Eller	160	1837
10	David Capper	120	1837
10	Simes Andreas	40	1837
10	Todd P. Ross	40	1837
10	M. F. Richey	120	1839
10	Mathias Lyons	120	1839
10	Ebson Stewart	40	1850
11	David Capper	480	1837
11	Samuel Shaffer	40	1837
11	Alex. Bidler	80	1837
11	John Shaffer	40	1837
12	Henry Zimmerman	80	1836
12	David Fostnaught	80	1836
12	Randolph Graybill	80	1836
12	John Harr, Jr.	160	1836
12	Samuel Shaffer	80	1837
12	James Tumbleson	160	1837
13	Jacob Zimmerman	80	1839
13	Samuel Slusser	160	1836
13	Nancy Slusser	80	1836
13	Henry Zimmerman	160	1836
13	Samuel Maddox	80	1837
13	Eli Adams	80	1837
14	John Hill	160	1836
14	Sarah M. Reynolds	320	1836
14	David Capper	160	1837
15	John Slusser, Sr.	320	1836
15	Rebecca Slusser	320	1836
16	Henry Showalter	80	1843
16	Peter Hertz	80	1843
16	Charles Germann	180	1843
16	R. C. Baxter & Hill	80	1843
16	Davis Johnson	80	1843
17	David Ohio	520	1848
17	Andrew Whitmarsh	80	1848
17	Samuel Norman	40	1848
18	Conrad Yarriman	160	1848
18	William Annon	141	1848
18	James F. Hager	160	1848
18	Heathcote Chilcote	70	1848
18	Robert Vanemon	70	1848

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.	SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
19	Tobias Pringle	160	1838	29	Isaiah Foster	80	1836
19	Samuel Plants	35	1838	29	John Gooley	80	1838
19	Adam Panabaker	80	1838	29	John R. Cunningham	80	1838
19	Joseph Deaner	80	1838	29	Joel Kaufman	160	1838
19	Joseph L. Huse	70	1838	29	Elias Deaner	160	1838
19	Sarah Deaner	70	1838	29	James Stewart	80	1848
19	Mary Deaner	70	1838	30	Josiah Foster	30	1836
19	A. J. Cory	35	1851	30	Jeremiah Plants	220	1838
19	Daniel D. Cash	80	1838	30	George Ritzman	160	1838
20	Israel Harris	160	1838	30	Samuel Plants	140	1838
20	Thomas B. Carault	80	1838	31	Andrew Kerr	80	1836
20	Nathaniel Strong	160	1838	31	John A. Gormley	80	1836
20	Samuel Plants	120	1838	31	Abel Johnson	278	1836
20	John P. Hay	40	1850	31	Joseph Johnson	160	1836
21	William Bower	160	1837	32	Andrew Kerr	160	1836
21	Lemuel Wagers	80	1838	32	John Marshall	80	1836
21	Milton Avery	120	1838	32	Abel Johnson	240	1836
21	Charles Hall	160	1838	32	John Goosley	160	1838
21	George Sproul	40	1849	33	Thomas Lyons	160	1837
22	Joseph Shotwell	640	1837	33	Gottlieb Bristley	320	1837
23	Eli Bauserman	160	1837	33	Michael Frantz	160	1837
23	Jacob Bauserman	160	1837	34	Isaac Alexander	160	1837
23	James R. Glenn	160	1837	34	Robert Manley	160	1837
23	Clark Glenn	160	1837	34	Michael Kreischer	80	1837
24	Asa Cook	40	1837	34	Philip Germann	80	1840
24	Jacob Bauserman	160	1837	34	F. C. Feigert	80	1840
24	Jonas Balyeat	240	1837	34	Shaw & Frisbie	80	1851
24	James R. Glenn	160	1837	35	Joseph Klinker	320	1837
25	Asa Cook	80	1837	34	C. Feigert	80	1840
25	Daniel Kaufman	160	1837	35	Susan Umbaugh	80	1837
25	Michael King	160	1837	35	Charles Miller	160	1837
25	John Goodbread	160	1837	35	George Myers	80	1837
25	Nathan Everett	80	1837	36	Henry Germann	160	1837
26	James R. Glenn	80	1837	36	Peter Germann	160	1837
26	Abraham Clawberg	160	1837	36	David Balyeat	240	1837
26	Hugh Murry	160	1837	36	Philip Knight	80	1837
26	Valentine Coleman	80	1837				
26	James R. Glenn	120	1837				
26	Joseph Miller	40	1837				
27	Robert Manley	240	1837				
27	Susan Umbaugh	80	1837				
27	Henry Coleman	80	1837				
27	John Shaw	80	1838				
27	William L. Shaw	80	1838				
27	Clark Glenn	80	1838				
28	Frederick Myers	80	1838				
28	James R. Boner	40	1838				
28	Susan E. Brown	80	1838				
28	Benjamin Johnson	240	1838				
28	John Brown, Jr.	40	1841				
28	John Grundy	80	1841				
28	Isaac Rigley	40	1848				
28	Anthony McQueen	40	1848				

PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

At an early day Aaron Hoover moved into the woods on the farm he still owns, built a log cabin and commenced clearing up his land. He noticed that a deer was coming into the clearing for browse. Having no gun of his own, he borrowed one from one of his neighbors and went out to the clearing, where he found the deer. It seemed so tame that he thought he would drive it up close to the house, so he would not have so far to carry it after it was

killed. But to his surprise the deer wouldn't drive!

When the Showalters settled in Harrison township, they had no horses and the boys trained their oxen so they could ride them and guide them with the whip. On one occasion Abraham Showalter started after the cows on one of the oxen and when he came up with them two deer were with the cows. He turned the cows in the direction of home and followed on and the deer kept along until he drove them into the barnyard, which was nothing but a small piece of ground surrounded by a fence made of logs and brush.

Two large bucks got into a fight west of where Stephen Capper lived, between his place and M. F. Richey's. They were heard fighting in the night but little attention was paid to the matter. A week or two later in going through the woods, a settler found them with their horns locked, one dead and the other almost starved to death. One was a seven-pronged and the other an eight-pronged buck.

M. F. Richey and James G. Gilliland went to the State Fair at Columbus, walking there and back. They each bought a Durham calf, one six months and the other seven months old, and drove them home. They paid \$50 apiece when the price of an ordinary cow or steer was \$10 to \$12. However, that was the first effort made to improve the stock of cattle in this county.

AN INDIAN SHERLOCK HOLMES.

Davis Johnson told the writer that one time when he was out hunting he met an Indian, who told him that a deer he had killed and hung up had been stolen by a white man. Johnson asked him if he knew who it was that stole the deer. The Indian said that the man was lame, that he smoked a pipe with a short stem, that he had a long gun and a dog with

a short tail and that he was an old man. In answer to Johnson's request for an explanation the Indian said that the man was lame because he walked on the toe of one boot and at every step twisted his foot. He smoked a short-stemmed pipe because he knocked the ashes of his pipe against a tree and the Indian could see where the man's finger-nail scratched the moss off the bark. He had a long gun because he had leaned it up against a tree and the Indian could see where it had rubbed the bark. The dog had a short tail because he had sat down on his haunches and made the print of his tail in the snow. He was an old man because—the writer will let the old men explain how the Indian told that. There was no doubt as to who got the deer, as there was one man in the neighborhood that filled the bill.

AN EARLY MARRIAGE IN HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

William Kear, who married Mary Johnson, made an arrangement with the justice of the peace of Willshire to marry them on Sunday. As it was to be the first marriage performed by the justice, his associates concluded to have some fun at his expense. When he started, he found that half a dozen of his neighbors were going the same way. They took delight in joking him on the journey. When they arrived at the Johnson home, the squire threw the bridal rein over a post and, hurrying into the house, asked, "Where is that couple that want to get married?" They were sitting on the floor with their feet down on the hearth a couple of feet lower. He said, "Stand up," which they did. He then said, "By the power granted me by the State of Ohio, I pronounce you man and wife. By G—, didn't I come it over the boys?" walked out to his pony, mounted and rode away while the others were hitching their horses.

A PIONEER METHODIST CHURCH.

The first Methodist Episcopal Church in Harrison township was organized in the fall of 1841 by Rev. Simeon Alderman at the log cabin of M. F. Richey. The first class consisted of Edson Stewart and wife, M. F. Richey and wife, Stephen Capper and wife, Mr. Glean and wife, and Mr. Lincoln and wife. Edson Stewart was the first class leader. This society retained its organization for about 12 years, when on account of its members moving away it was disorganized.

HARRISON BAPTIST CHURCH.

A council convened at the Harrison school-house on Saturday, March 12, 1853, for the purpose of constituting a regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ. Elder D. D. Johnson was chosen moderator and Rev. S. M. Brower, clerk. Delegates were present from Bethel, Duck Creek, Mount Gilead, Pleasant View, Willshire and Wapakoneta. The constituent members were Elder John Larue, C. Larue, Deacon Aaron Balyeat, Martha Balyeat, Thomas and Nancy Baxter, John Baxter, Lucinda Baxter, David Balyeat, Sarah Balyeat, and Susannah Brubaker. The sermon was preached by Elder Drury, of Mount Gilead; the hand of fellowship given by Rev. D. D. Johnson, of Willshire; and the charge by Rev. S. M. Brower of Wapakoneta. A meeting followed, lasting until April 21st, which resulted in 13 additions by baptism and two by experience. Aaron Balyeat was chosen deacon and clerk at the first business meeting and John Larue was called as pastor for half his time and a council was called to convene in August to consider his ordination. At the August business meeting, the church voted to unite with the Auglaize Association and elected their

pastor, Deacon Balyeat and Samuel Smedley, delegates. At the December meeting, 1857, the first steps were taken toward the erection of a meeting house by appointing a meeting at the home of Deacon Balyeat for December 24th to fully discuss the matter. Elder John Larue, Abram and Aaron Balyeat were appointed a building committee. The house was built during the summer of 1858. The pastors have been: Revs. John Larue, A. Larue, R. Edmonds, I. Bloomer, W. W. Robinson, D. B. Beckard, V. D. Willard, A. Snider, W. S. Kent, W. H. Gallant, J. E. Thomas, J. J. Willet, H. H. Smith, C. S. Wians and A. W. West. Of these, John Larue, R. Edmonds, V. D. Willard and D. B. Beckard each served the congregation twice.

Since the organization, there have been received into the church over 300 members. In 1902, the old church being too small, a new one was built and furnished at a cost of \$2,500. Since then there have been 12 additions to the membership. Rev. A. W. West is pastor of the church at present.

ST. THOMAS' LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This church organization might be said to date back to the earliest settlement in Harrison township by the Germans in 1839, when services were held at private houses by preachers that came on horseback from Fort Wayne, Indiana. It is a German congregation. In 1846 church services were being held in a log schoolhouse. In 1858 a frame one-story church was built, 20 by 40 feet in dimensions. The small congregation were happy in their new home. It was quite an improvement over the log house.

In September, 1858, the corner-stone was laid for a new brick church building, 32 by 72 feet in ground dimensions and 20 feet to the

square, with a steeple 102 feet high. The total cost of the building was \$6,232. It is well built and nicely furnished.

Since 1870 there have been six pastors, as follows: Revs. G. Gruber, 1870-82; F. W. Frauka, 1882-84; N. F. Kunchick, 1884-89; Charles Strauser, 1889-93; J. H. Klausing, 1893-1900; A. T. C. Bunck, 1900-06.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL ST. PAUL CHURCH.

Away back in the '30's, when deer roamed through our forests, when wild turkeys abounded and wolves prowled about at night in search of their prey, in the dense primeval forests then covering our now beautiful country, there came to this county a number of immigrants from over the sea and took up their abode in what is now the northern part of Willshire and the southern part of Harrison township.

These people were Germans and brought with them not only strong muscles but willing hands as well, and as a result, shortly after their sojourn here, they were able to call a few log huts their homes, in which they lived as contentedly as the king in his palace.

Not unlike the Pilgrims, these people brought with them the desire for religious worship, but being few in number and scant in means they at first held worship in houses round about, for they were too poor to maintain a minister, and so each in his turn led the worship.

Thus some years passed until about 1850, when Rev. J. D. Gackenhimer, a missionary from Germany, who at the time was working in Pennsylvania, was asked to come as a missionary. To this call he readily responded, and services were held in houses, barns, school-houses, etc., until the desire for a suitable place of worship became so strong that in 1853 a

tract of land 20 rods square, located in section 31, Harrison township, was bought of P. Kreischer for \$5 by the organization known as the German Evangelical St. Paul Church, it being a union of Lutheran and Reform. Upon this tract immediately was begun the foundation for a new frame church, 30 by 40 feet in dimensions, which was completed in 1854 and dedicated to the Lord.

The above-named Rev. J. D. Gackenhimer was the minister for the next 20 years.

The first members of the church were: John Giessler, Philip Hott, Jacob Kreischer, Frederick Feigert, Philip Giessler, Adam Venter, Jacob Gehres, Peter Wendel, Peter Kreischer, Michael Kreischer, Adam Schaadt, John N. Diestler, John N. Wendel, Peter Gehres and Philip Schaadt—all immigrants from Hessen-Homburg, Germany.

The year 1866 made this church a part of the organization known as the German Evangelical Synod of North America.

This same year the church property was enlarged by an additional piece of land purchased of P. Kreischer on which a well was dug for school and church purposes.

In 1874 Mr. Gackenhimer resigned as minister and so the church the 38 acres, which had been taken up as government land by him, and retained part of it as parsonage property until the year 1883 when it was finally disposed of and another three-acre lot purchased of P. Kreischer contiguous to the other church property, and a dwelling and other necessary buildings erected for the minister.

As time went on and the population of the district increased, the demand for a new church became apparent, and so after the preliminary steps had been taken the corner-stone for a modern frame church was laid August 21, 1892; within it were inserted two documents--the old one taken from the old church, which

gives the details of the foundation of the congregation as well as existing conditions at that time, and the new one a rehearsal of the present conditions and recent growth of the church. The size of the church is 36 by 70 feet, with steeple 115 feet high, furnished with a bell. The church complete cost \$5,000. The dedication occurred September 17, 1893, with appropriate exercises, at which time there were 91 paying members, 200 communicants and 340 souls.

On September 14, 1900, the semi-centennial of the founding of the church was celebrated in the form of a jubilee with exercises to suit the occasion.

These people at all times have believed in giving their children German as well as English training, and to this end they have always had a German school during the summer months so as not to interfere with the district school. Not having a suitable schoolhouse, it was decided in 1900 to build a modern frame schoolhouse 28 by 40 in dimensions, which cost \$1,000 and was properly dedicated on Thanksgiving Day that year.

In 1902 the parsonage was remodeled by lining with paper and by putting on an extra coat of siding.

To remedy the evil of the deep mud in front of the church during damp weather, it was recently decided to pike with stone in front and also on the east side along the church; this is to be done in 1906, which year will also see the erection of a new summer house for the minister.

The church at present has 400 souls. Within the last 20 years there has been raised for missionary purposes the sum of \$4,095.

Following are the ministers who have served the church: Rev. J. D. Gackenheimer, 1850-74; Rev. H. Ludwig, 1874-77; Rev. C. Reiner, 1877-82; Rev. F. Zimmermann, 1882-

86; Rev. J. Stilli, 1886-91; and Rev. F. Schlesinger, 1891—.

THE HERTZ FAMILY.

The founder of the family in Van Wert County was born in Germany, and came to this country and located in Harrison township in 1838. They lived in Van Wert from May until August of that year, making their home in a log house, where The Central Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company's building is now located. While living in Van Wert, a daughter of Mr. Hertz, who later married Henry Showalter, discovered some bullets buried on the lot now occupied by the store of D. R. Bonewitz's Sons, on the corner of Main and Market streets. She reported the find to her father and he and some others unearthed about 100 pounds of bullets and some silver plate, that had doubtless been buried by some of Wayne's army on their march from Fort Adams to Fort Defiance.

After they moved on their land in Harrison township, they cleared an acre of land and sowed it in wheat, but as winter set in early it did not come up until spring. However, they threshed 18 bushels of wheat from that acre. They had cleared another acre during the winter and put it in corn and gathered a good crop—what was left by the coons and squirrels.

Peter Hertz was born in Germany in 1820, came to Harrison township with his parents in 1838 and helped to clear up the home farm. On January 17, 1840, he was married to Mary Germann and they lived on the home farm for 25 years until they were separated by the death of Mrs. Hertz. She was the mother of five children. Mr. Hertz was respected in the community and held many positions of honor and trust.

HENRY SHOWALTER

Came to Harrison township in 1839; he was then single. He purchased land of Norman Preston and on September 16, 1841, was married to Mary Hertz. They cleared up a farm, enduring all the hardships incident to a new country, and raised a family that are a credit to them and to the community.

At one time, shortly after the writer com-

menced business in Van Wert, Mr. Showalter brought a load of flaxseed to town that came to \$120. There was a mistake made of \$20, which was not discovered until he reached home. The next day Mr. Showalter came to town horseback to correct the mistake by paying back the money overpaid.

Mrs. Showalter is still living and recounts many of the scenes of her early life to her children and grandchildren.

CHAPTER XII

TULLY TOWNSHIP

Organization—First Settlers—Names of Voters in 1840—Some of the Original Land Entries—Pioneer Reminiscences—The Bear Swamp—Dixon—Notes on Tully Township and Convoy Village.

At a session of the Board of County Commissioners, held December 2, 1839, the following action was taken:

"A petition being presented to the board praying for the organization of T. 1 S., R. 1 E., Ordered that the same be and hereby is struck off from Harrison township and shall constitute a civil township under the name of Tully. Ordered that the Auditor notify the qualified electors of said township to meet on the 25th instant at the house of John G. Morse for the purpose of electing officers in and for said township."

On June 4, 1841, the commissioners ordered that sections 6, 7, 18, 19, 30 and 31 and the west tier of sections of township 1 south, range 2 east, then attached to Hoaglin township, be struck off therefrom and attached to Tully.

At the election held by order of the commissioners at the house of John G. Morse on December 25, 1839, John G. Morse was elected clerk; William Henny, justice of the peace; George W. Angevine, treasurer.

FIRST SETTLERS.

The first settler in the township was John G. Morse, who built the first log house, assisted

only by his wife. This was in 1837. In 1838 Thomas Hudspeth and James Wortman came. In 1839 John Magner, Michael Anderson, John Baker, George W. Angevine, William Henny, John Underwood, and Henry Roehm settled here. In 1840 Henry Beamer, Robert Nesbet, Jacob Coleman and Levi and John Kyle took up lands and founded homes in Tully township.

NAMES OF VOTERS IN 1840.

After the election held in Tully township on the 25th day of October, 1840, there were 23 electors qualified to vote. Their names as given in the poll book of the election follows: George W. Angevine, Michael Anderson, Thomas High, George Beintz, George High, James Wortman, John Baker, Levi Kyle, John G. Morse, John Kyle, Henry Wagoner, William Henny, Jacob Coleman, John Underwood, John Kyle, Jr., Jonathan Ball, William Anderson, Chris. Gouse, M. Smith, A. Zimmerman, Henry Gunset, Jacob Sands and John T. Stephenson. John G. Morse and Levi Kyle were the clerks of the election, and William Henny, John Baker and Jacob Coleman, the judges.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR
1	Michael Clouse	160	1830
1	Dwight Taylor	160	1852
1	Robinson Ross	80	1851
1	Nathaniel Hardin	160	1852
1	John J. Salliday	80	1852
2	Dwight Taylor	80	1853
2	Thomas P. Johnson	160	1853
2	Avery L. Curtis	80	1853
3	William Lyons	40	1837
3	Shaw & Frisbie	40	1851
3	Young & Others	160	1854
3	Alex. Welch	80	1854
3	James Marshall	80	1854
3	John Shaw	80	1854
5	Jacob Sellers	80	1837
5	William Lyons	40	1837
5	Lyman S. Wells	40	1838
5	Nathaniel Strong	80	1838
5	Joel Click	40	1838
5	John I. Click	200	1838
5	William Parker	160	1850
6	William Flick	280	1838
6	John Magner	80	1839
6	John Baker	118	1839
6	W. F. Howland	118	1839
6	Davis Johnson	40	1852
7	John Gilliland	160	1838
7	James R. McLain	154	1838
7	Michael Bodle	80	1839
7	John Williams	117	1839
7	Elias Johnson	39	1853
8	Nathaniel Strong	80	1838
8	Joel Click	160	1838
8	William Flick	40	1838
8	John Gilliland	80	1838
8	Abfam Zimmerman	160	1830
8	Henry Smith	80	1842
8	George Clinger	40	1850
9	Lewis Spenny	160	1839
9	Jacob Sellers	80	1837
9	Levinus Spenny	80	1837
9	Felty Snider	240	1838
9	T. H. Elwell	80	1853
10	John Sellers	160	1837
10	T. H. Elwell	320	1853
11	Christopher Anstutz	40	1839
12	James Kirkendale	160	1839
12	Henry Mowry	160	1839
13	Emanuel Cummings	40	1837
13	William Redman	20	1837
13	George Marsh	160	1871

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR
13	Wilson Holden	80	1852
13	John F. Dodds	320	1853
14	James Wortman	160	1837
14	Nathaniel Strong	80	1838
14	John Williams	80	1839
14	John F. Dodds	160	1851
14	Thomas Elwell	80	1853
15	Mary Ramsey & others	160	1836
15	John G. Morse	80	1837
15	L. Spenny	160	1857
15	Charles Butcher	80	1839
15	N. Strong	80	1839
16	George Beamer	80	1839
16	Uriah Malick	400	1839
16	E. N. Martin	160	1853
17	Adam Roehm	80	1838
17	John Michel	80	1839
17	Henry Vantilburg	160	1839
17	John Vantilburg	80	1839
17	Christian Youse	80	1839
17	John Sponseller	80	1842
17	Abraham Klinger	40	1842
17	Perry Burr	40	1852
18	James Gilliland	312	1838
18	James Scott	80	1839
18	Jonas Scott	80	1839
18	John Livingstone	76	1839
18	John Perkins	76	1839
19	Jacob Keever	80	1838
19	M. B. Martin	114	1838
19	Charles Campbell	160	1839
19	Jacob Bowers	152	1839
19	Schuyler Perkins	38	1839
19	Henry Gunsett	40	1839
19	Abraham Klinger	40	1843
20	M. F. Richey	80	1839
20	Baltus Beintz	80	1839
20	Benjamin Griffith	160	1839
20	David Richey, Jr.	160	1839
20	M. F. Richey	40	1839
20	Alexander McGauhay	80	1839
20	John Sponseller	40	1839
21	Peter Roop	320	1839
21	Christian Donor	80	1839
21	George Marsh	100	1851
21	Bryant Thornell	80	1852
22	John Ded'elback	80	1839
22	Lewis High	80	1839
22	George Marsh	160	1839
22	Garrett Barnes	80	1837
23	Isaac Spear	40	1839
23	Samuel W. Parmley	80	1839
23	Thomas Clark	80	1839

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR
23	Henry Kaizer	40	1838
23	William Rader	160	1838
23	Z. B. Rocher	40	1839
23	Joseph Feasby	40	1851
24	Isaac Spear	40	1836
24	Samuel W. Parmley	80	1837
24	V. G. Hush	80	1837
23	W. B. Wharton	80	1837
24	John McColly	80	1838
24	William Overpack	120	1838
24	John McColly	40	1839
24	Michael Anderson	120	1839
24	Henry Jordan	40	1839
24	Jacob Ebersole	40	1839
25	Evan H. Jones	160	1836
25	James F. Maddox	120	1836
25	William Mumaugh	80	1836
25	William Henry	80	1839
25	C. S. Jeremiah	80	1839
25	John Rick	80	1839
25	John Sands	40	1840
26	Henry Beamer	43	1837
26	David Fry	80	1838
26	George W. Angevine	80	1839
26	Henry Smith	40	1839
26	Clayton Will	80	1839
26	John Stearnes	160	1839
26	David High	40	1839
26	George Lonburg	80	1839
26	Henry Beamer	40	1840
27	Amrose Fry	160	1838
27	Samuel McGinnis	240	1838
27	Levi Bozman	80	1838
27	John Rick	80	1839
27	Daniel Beal	80	1839
28	Peter Swoveland	200	1838
28	David Richey	40	1839
28	Daniel Beal	80	1839
28	Peter Roop	120	1840
28	John Lare	120	1840
28	Josiah Smith	40	1840
28	George Marsh	40	1851
29	John Vantilburg	160	1839
29	Sarah Marvin	320	1839
29	Stephen Marvin	160	1839
30	James Campbell	152	1839
30	William Reed	80	1839
30	James Irvin	40	1839
30	John Brown	160	1839
30	Joseph Roop	76	1841
30	Peter Roop	76	1842
30	Henry Clinger	40	1843
31	William Gafney	152	1838

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
31	John I. McKelvey	72	1838
31	James H. McKelvey	160	1838
31	John G. Warner	40	1851
31	David Brown	40	1851
31	George Marsh	40	1853
32	Stephen Morris	40	1839
32	James F. Smith	40	1839
32	James H. Eaton	80	1840
32	John Bowers, Sr.	80	1841
32	David Jones	240	1851
32	Robert Parish	40	1852
32	Avery L. Curtis	120	1853
33	Thomas Hudspeth	160	1838
33	Davis Johnson	80	1838
33	James L. Ward	30	1838
33	F. Allender	160	1838
33	Jacob Rhodes	80	1838
33	T. B. Tullis & Others	80	1852
34	Joseph Johnson	160	1838
34	John Owens	80	1838
34	J. W. Shaffer	80	1840
34	Charles Hilliard	80	1851
34	William Ward	160	1851
34	William Ward	160	1851
34	George Marsh	80	1851
35	Henry Beamer	80	1837
35	Martin Showalter	80	1839
35	Henry Showalter	80	1839
35	Jacob Coleman		
35	Robert Nesbeth	120	1839
35	John N. Reidenbach	80	1839
35	Isaiah W. Shaffer	80	1840
35	Jesse Smith	49	1846
36	Mary Ramsey	80	1836
36	Henry Germann	160	1838
36	John Rish	160	1838
36	Jacob Coleman	80	1839
36	James McGraw	40	1842
36	William McGraw	40	1842
36	Shaw & Frisbie	80	1851

PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

The road through the township following the Indian trail was cut through from the E. R. Wells farm to Fort Wayne by the Gilliland brothers and Peter Wills in 1836. This road was afterwards located as the Bucyrus and Fort Wayne free turnpike, but there was nothing further done than to have the road surveyed.

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John G. Morse—the first settler in the township—and his wife were made of the material for pioneers. They came from Canandaigua County, New York, in 1836 and proceeded on foot from Defiance to their land in Tully township. They built their own house without help, as there was no one to render them assistance. Mr. Morse was appointed surveyor in 1838. Mrs. Morse became an expert marksman and was never at a loss for meat while Mr. Morse was absent surveying.

On one occasion as Mr. Morse and his wife were passing John Magnaer's place, on their way to Van Wert, they noticed that there was no stir about the house. Mr. Morse gave the lines to his wife and said that he would investigate. He entered the house, but soon returned and told his wife to come to the house as her help was needed. They found the whole family sick in bed with no fire and no wood and all the food about the house consisted of a small piece of corn bread. Mr. Morse, after getting some wood and kindling a fire, took some corn to a neighbor's hand-mill, had it ground and returned with it to the sick family. He and his wife remained with them two days and when they went home sent their daughter to take care of the sick.

Soon after his arrival in Tully township, Mr. Morse planted on his farm two apple trees—the first in the township—which had been given him by "Johnny Appleseed" (John Chapman).

Henry Kaiser moved to Tully township about 1839 or 1840. A short time afterward his wife was boiling soap at a fire outdoors, when her clothes caught fire and she was burned to death. They had two little girls quite young. The father carried them back to Miami County on his back. He had them in a sack, arranged like a knapsack, with their heads sticking up above his shoulder. He took

one back to his former home and then came back and carried the other the same way. He came back each year and worked on his land, and cleared up his farm. He afterward brought his daughters out to keep house for him. He would never wear cotton clothes after his wife's death and would get angry when cotton goods were mentioned.

THE BEAR SWAMP.

In the northwest part of the township there was a large swampy paririe, known as the Bear Swamp. It was covered with willows, small brush and a tall prairie grass and was an ideal retreat for Bruin; there he could be found for many years after the arrival of the first settlers, whose corn and hogs often suffered from his forays. As late as 1858 there was a dozen or more bears killed in the neighborhood of the swamp. This swamp was hard to drain for want of an outlet. It was condemned as swamp land and the general government gave it to the State as such, and the State gave it to whomsoever would drain it. After spending large sums of money in digging ditches with no adequate outlet, it was finally drained by digging a small canal through the timberland north of it to an outlet. It was expensive ditching, but it paid. Now, the Bear Swamp has some of the best land in the State. The soil is a rich accumulation of vegetable matter, in places three or four feet deep. Davis Johnson had a farm in the northeastern part of it and had 80 rods of drain put in. Shortly afterward a fire broke out. When it had spent its force, the tile was found on top of the ground, the vegetable matter having all been burned off. Much of this land that for years was offered free to anyone who would drain it now could not be bought for \$100 an acre.

DIXON

Was laid out by Robert Gilliland about 1854 and was known for sometime as "Bobtown." It is located on the Ohio and Indiana State line, where it is crossed by the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway. It has a population of about 150 inhabitants, who reside equally on each side of the State line. Hence it has never been incorporated.

It has two large general stores—one conducted by Payne Morgan in Indiana and one conducted in Ohio, by A. J. Wood; a small grocery owned by Nathaniel Davis; a large grain elevator owned by Bert Long and Earl Marshall, of Convoy, who also handle hay and salt, hard and soft coal, flour and corn meal. Messrs. Long and Marshall purchased the ground and business of Singer Brothers (William and Thomas), who had twice burned out—as the fires could never be explained and having strong suspicions of a fire bug, they refused to rebuild again.

S. J. Clem is a buyer and shipper of livestock, and also packs and ships poultry in the winter season. His assistant in the stock business is James E. Solinger. Davis & Filler handle the bulk of the coal delivered at Dixon. Joseph T. McIntosh is a resident carpenter who contracts and builds houses and barns at Dixon and in the surrounding territory. A large hardware and buggy business is owned by Melvin A. and Harry Clem, known by the firm name of M. A. Clem & Brother.

Dr. J. D. Morgan, who came here from Cummingsville, Tennessee in 1882, has built up an immense practice and besides owning the finest residence in Dixon has two farms and is a stockholder in the People's Savings Bank at Van Wert.

Selway Brothers (Frank and Walter),

while residents of Dixon, are proprietors of the Monroeville Machine Works at Monroeville, Indiana. They do general repair work of all kinds from shoeing a horse to patching a boiler. The blacksmith shops, two in number, are owned respectively by Hackett S. Boner and J. D. Cox, who is the oldest resident of Dixon. The station agent of the Pennsylvania Company is R. E. Wishman, who formerly resided at Bourbon, Indiana. The manager of the Western Union Telegraph Company's office is Francis May.

Dixon has one church—a Union Church, built by the people. The church society has a membership of 90; there is also a good Sunday-school. The Methodists are the prevailing denomination at Dixon.

The postoffice is in charge of Charles Hocken, who bears the distinction of being the first appointee in Van Wert County, under President William McKinley. Dixon has two rural routes; the carriers are Sylvester G. Fortney and Samuel Mollenkopf.

Dixon's location on the State line has been a hindrance to its growth. But its merchants as a rule have been successful and have enjoyed a good trade in their respective lines. It is one of the best grain shipping points on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway, as the country in any direction from the town is productive and farmers are wide-awake.

NOTES ON TULLY TOWNSHIP AND CONVOY VILLAGE.

(BY DR. B. F. LESLIE.)

The first election in Tully township was held in 1839 at the home of John G. Morse. Before they organized, Mrs. Morse named the township "Tully," after her home town in New York State.

At this election William Henny was chosen

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF KING CHARLES THE FIRST

IN WHICH ARE CONTAINED THE
MOST IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING
CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS REIGN
FROM HIS MARRIAGE TO HIS DEATH
BY
JOHN BURNET
BISHOP OF SALISBURY
IN TWO VOLUMES
THE SECOND VOLUME
LONDON
Printed by J. Sturges, at the Angel in St. Dunstons Church
1724

justice of the peace, and Thomas Anderson, township clerk.

Tully township has a rich black soil well adapted to the raising of all kinds of crops. The township was originally heavily timbered, except for a few swamps. It did not make very rapid improvement until about 1868, when people began ditching and opening up outlets for the water. From that time on the farmers began to raise good crops and make good improvements.

The Sugar Ridge road runs nearly through the center of the township. In 1865 there were only four or five houses north of this road. Section 11 in this township was appraised by John Shaw, real estate assessor, at \$1.25 per acre, in 1880; at \$5 in 1890; at \$18 in 1900, these figures being the appraised value of the land, exclusive of the buildings. This section is located about the center of what used to be called the Bear Swamp. Today this land is selling from \$80 to \$100 per acre. In 1865 there were only four buggies owned in the township.

Convoy and Dixon are the only villages in the township.

Convoy, located in the eastern portion of the township, was laid out and platted June 16, 1854. In 1865 there were about a dozen houses, a Catholic church, two small general stores, a saloon, a blacksmith shop, and a saw-mill in the center of the town. There were also two doctors, Allen and Leslie, the latter of whom still continues in the active practice of his profession.

Almost every day in the early life of the village might be seen a free-for-all fight. It was a tough little village then. In 1874 the village of Convoy was incorporated. W. H. Zimmerman was elected mayor; A. J. Leslie, Dr. B. F. Leslie, F. Heath, H. S. Smith, H. Richmond and M. Welch, councilmen. The

first money expended was to build a calaboose, and instructions were given to the officers to arrest and punish every person who disregarded law and order. Ever since that time Convoy has made a steady and substantial growth and has now about 1,000 inhabitants, all good citizens. The town has a brick school



TOWN HALL AT CONVOY.

house of six rooms, four churches, a bank, a drugstore, two grain elevators, four dry goods stores, four groceries, a cement block factory, a hotel, two good hardware stores, a cigar factory and a large lumber-yard.

Convoy is located on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway, and on the Fort Wayne, Van Wert & Lima Traction Company's line.

On the early morning of January 16, 1906, a fire broke out in the business part of Convoy and the wind blowing a gale at the time, 22 buildings, chiefly business houses, were burned before the fire was got under control, entailing a loss of about \$65,000, with \$35,000 insurance. The burned buildings will be replaced with either brick or cement-block buildings during the coming summer.

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CHAPTER XIII

HOAGLIN TOWNSHIP

Organization—First Settlers—Names of Voters in 1844—Some of the Original Land Entries—Indians Steal a Horse—A. A. Giffin's Address on "Van Wert and the Country"—St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church—Sketches of Some of the Pioneers.

At a meeting of the board of County Commissioners, held March 2, 1840, a petition was presented signed by certain citizens of township 1 south, range 2 east and township 1 south, range 3 east, for the organization of said townships. It was accordingly

"Ordered that said townships be and they are hereby struck off from Ridge and Pleasant townships and they constitute a civil township and be known by the name of Hoaglin and when said Territory shall be again divided town 1 S., R. 3 E., shall hold the name.

"Ordered that the Auditor notify the qualified electors of said township to meet at the house of Jacob Speeler in said township on the 1st Monday of April next for the purpose of electing officers in and for said township."

At the election held under this order, seven votes were cast and the following officers elected: Trustees—Jacob Speeler, Elias Evers and Aaron Hoaglin; clerk, Enoch M. Hoaglin; justice of the peace, J. B. Groscost; supervisor Elias Beamer; and constable, Jefferson Hoaglin.

FIRST SETTLERS.

Enoch M. Hoaglin settled in the township May 5, 1839; Aaron Hoaglin May 25, 1839;

and L. J. Mitchell, February 8, 1840. During the years 1839 and 1840 John Speeler, Adley Calhoun, Elias Beamer, David Tolan, Jacob Shaffer, Joshua Shaffer, William Hagerman, Henry Blythe, Jacob Stripe, John Clayton, Henry Taylor, Frederick Taylor, Andrew Hattery and Andrew Hattery, Jr., became residents of the township.

NAMES OF VOTERS IN 1844.

At an election for justice of the peace of Hoaglin township, held November 1, 1844, there were 17 electors, whose names follow: Jesse B. Groscost, James Murphy, John Murphy, Samuel Nestric, Andrew Hattery, William Hagerman, Aaron Hoaglin, Obadiah Harvey, Jacob Speeler, Elias Beamer, Jacob Hagerman, Joshua Shaffer, Samuel Fritz, Enoch M. Hoaglin, William Harvey, Jacob Stripe and Nathaniel Hattery. Enoch M. Hoaglin and Joshua Shaffer were the clerks of the election, and Samuel Nestric, Elias Beamer and Andrew Hattery, the judges.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES	YEAR
2	Lyman Starling	320	1839
2	William Bebb	334	1839
3	John Calhoun	160	1839

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.	SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
3	John A. Graham	169	1836	17	George Miser	160	1838
3	Charles Steadman	160	1836	17	Asa Houseman	40	1838
3	Charles C. Marshall	7	1851	18	Isaac Hoaglin	80	1838
4	William Palmer	320	1839	18	John Calhoun	160	1839
4	Michael Lonkie	84	1839	18	Abram Boyd	80	1839
4	Henry Freeman	84	1851	18	Joseph Hoover	43	1839
4	William Geiseman	84	1851	18	Timothy Shaffer	216	1840
5	D. W. Burt	655	1851	18	John Hoprichter	80	1840
6	D. W. Burt	411	1842	19	Enoch M. Hoaglin	86	1840
6	Mathew Black	43	1850	19	C. B. Mitchell	86	1840
6	Lewis Kline	87	1850	19	Jacob Shaffer	86	1840
6	John Sacken	43	1850	19	Joseph Shaffer	86	1840
7	William Hickman	131	1839	19	George Stout	80	1840
7	John Keifer	80	1840	19	John Hoprichter	80	1850
7	John Murphy	80	1844	19	George Deims	80	1851
7	Elias Beamer	120	1851	19	Joseph Fife	80	1851
7	Benjamin Kile	43	1851	20	Morris Reese	160	1836
7	Enoch M. Hoaglin	40	1851	20	Jacob Grubbs	160	1838
7	Joseph H. Cave	43	1851	20	Henry Blythe	160	1839
7	John Hattery	129	1852	20	John Calhoun	160	1840
8	Christopher Little	80	1839	21	William Harvey	160	1840
8	John Calhoun	80	1839	21	John Warrick	160	1840
8	James Handly	80	1842	21	John McCreary	160	1840
8	D. W. Burt	160	1851	21	Lynn Starling	80	1840
8	Reese Ludwig	240	1851	21	John Bucher	80	1851
9	Christopher Little	80	1839	22	Lynn Starling	240	1840
9	Abram Sayers	86	1839	22	William Mumaugh	80	1839
9	Amos Sayers	160	1839	22	Stephen Durbin	80	1836
9	Daniel Downs	80	1850	22	O. Harvey	40	1840
9	A. Calhoun	160	1850	22	James Boals	80	1850
10	Jesse Reed	40	1839	22	Nathan Allen	40	1851
10	Abram Sayers	80	1839	23	Mary Mann	160	1837
10	A. Calhoun	260	1850	23	George Lear	160	1837
10	John Calhoun	320	1851	23	Sarah Armon	80	1837
11	John G. Steadman	160	1836	23	B. Osman	80	1837
11	Lynn Starling	320	1842	23	James Huston	80	1837
11	Fred Mohr	160	1851	25	Eli Felters	80	1836
14	Elijah Foster	160	1836	25	Joseph Burwell	160	1840
14	Robert Calhoun	320	1849	25	William Bebb	320	1851
14	Lynn Starling	160	1850	25	William Austin	80	1851
15	Lynn Starling	160	1836	26	David Ridenour	160	1851
15	Solomon Day	40	1836	26	James C. Bowers	40	1851
15	Solomon Hash	40	1836	26	Jesse B. Stephens	160	1851
15	Mathew Little	80	1839	26	James Thompson	40	1851
15	Samuel Devore	80	1839	26	Sarah Stephens	80	1851
15	Adam Snyder	160	1839	26	Jacob D. Harter	80	1851
16	Abraham Walborn	400	1850	26	Archibald McDonald	80	1852
16	James Harvey	80	1850	27	Jacob Stripe	160	1839
16	Obadiah Harvey	80	1854	27	Samuel A. Miller	200	1850
16	Christian Mohr	80	1854	27	William Corathers	80	1851
17	John Calhoun	86	1839	27	Joshua Green	160	1851
17	Moses Calhoun	160	1839	27	William Judd	40	1851
17	Henry Taylor	120	1839	28	Lynn Starling	320	1840

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
28	Warren Stripe	320	1838
29	Lynn Starling	320	1836
29	William Mumaugh	160	1836
29	Isaac Reese	160	1836
30	William Stripe	160	1836
30	Jacob Stripe	160	1836
30	Joseph Stephens	86	1836
30	Francis Scott	160	1839
30	John Clayton	86	1839
30	Elias Beamer	86	1841
31	Lynn Starling	320	1836
31	Jacob Stripe	339	1836
32	William Stripe	320	1836
32	Jacob Newman	40	1836
32	Henry Newman	40	1836
32	William Waugh	80	1839
32	Michael Keefer	120	1839
33	Jacob Newman	80	1838
33	William Waugh	80	1839
33	Henry Springer	320	1849
33	John N. Deatruck	180	1851
33	Abner Root	80	1853
34	Adam Wolford	160	1849
34	George Burcaw	160	1849
34	Henry Springer	160	1849
34	John M. Franklin	160	1851
35	Moses Thompson	120	1839
35	Henry Springer	160	1849
35	John N. Deatruck	80	1851
35	John M. Higgins	160	1852
35	Godfrey Brown	160	1839
35	Samuel Brown	120	1839
36	Moses Thompson	40	1839
36	Hugh F. Jones	80	1840
36	R. Rathbun	40	1851
36	Edward Timmons	160	1851
36	Elizabeth Shupp	40	1852

INDIANS STEAL A HORSE.

At one time the Indians stole Enoch M. Hoaglin's only horse. He finally found their camp and upon entering it discovered that they were in a state of intoxication and enjoying an exciting revelry. He made inquiries for his stolen horse but they would not give him any information, pretending to know nothing about it. He vainly persisted in his inquiries and they persistently pleaded ignorance of any knowledge of the horse. He finally charged them

with having stolen his horse. This aroused the anger of the demons. A painted warrior rushed out with a large knife and uttering a war-whoop advanced upon Mr. Hoaglin in a ferocious manner, exclaiming, "Me no steal white man's horse. Me kill pale face." Mr. Hoaglin immediately covered the Indian with his rifle and the latter stole back into his hut. Shortly afterward Hoaglin recovered his horse, which he found hobbled among the Indian ponies.

VAN WERT AND THE COUNTRY.

"The following address was given by A. A. Giffin, of Hoaglin township, at the annual banquet of the Business Men's League, held in Van Wert, on March 6, 1905, the address being in response to the toast, 'Van Wert and the Country.'"

If I were an artist, I would paint you three pictures of "Van Wert and the Country"—as they used to be, as they are now and as they will be—but as I am not an artist I will tell you a story.

When I was but a small boy, circumstances dropped me down in a little opening in Hoaglin township. My home was a log shanty with only one room in it. I longed for society, I longed for an education. I started out searching; I saw a cow path through the forest; I followed it for a mile or so; I came to another log shanty, but it had two rooms in it. I pulled the latch string and pushed the door open; I entered the living room and saw the church furniture—benches for seats, a four-legged table with an oilcloth cover. Some books lay upon the table; they indicated age. I picked up one of them, and turned to the title page; it was "The Farmers' Dictionary, 1840." I turned over a few pages and found the word "auditor." I looked for the definition which was—"A town man that can figure. Better known as a Court House rat." I turned over a few more

pages and saw the words, "Business man;" I looked for the definition,—“A town man that keeps store. He buys and sells things and tries to cheat people, especially the farmers.” I turned a few more pages; I found street broker,—“A town man with money. He walks up and down the street seeking some one to devour; a robber.” I turned back a few pages and my eye rested on the word “lawyer,”—“A man devoid of the truth; a liar.”

Now, friends, thanks to an educational force that has been abroad in our country for the past 30 years, these conditions have been radically changed. A strong educational force, so strong that it reached over into the country and picked up a farm boy, just out of his blue overalls and check shirt and plow shoes, and dropped him down in the Auditor's office (an old time “Court House rat”). A little later on, it picked him up again and dropped him down in the State Senate chamber. An educational force that was so plainly manifest at our recent Farmers' Institute, when there upon the stage stood the city man and the country man, elbow to elbow, and to the eye of the stranger they could not be distinguished.

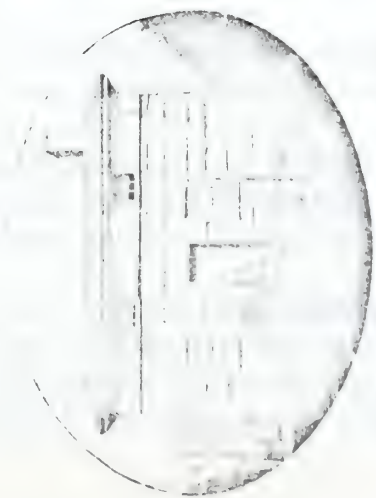
Do you wonder what this educational force is? The main trunk we name the Grange educator. The first branch from it we call the public road improvement; the second branch we call rural mail delivery; and the third branch we call the country telephone. All combined make a powerful educator.

Thus far our city has outstripped the country in material progress, as is evidenced by your many business houses, and your hustling business men; by your stately churches and schoolhouses, manned by able God-fearing ministers and educators; by your daily newspapers which send the news twice each day, crisp and fresh, to the waiting public; and by your magnificent Public Library, thanks to the

donor, J. S. Brumback, the greatest of the kind in our nation.

But, members of the Business Men's League, I warn you now,—look well to your laurels. I stand upon the Public Square of your beautiful city and take a peep into the future; I look to the north; I see a small speck at the horizon. I look to the Southwest; I see another speck. I look to the northeast; I see another speck a little bit larger. I look to the west; there I see a spot—it gets larger, larger, larger. I look to the east; there I see a cloud—it seems to be moving, it *is* moving, it comes nearer, nearer, nearer, it is the rural trolley car; loaded to its very door with living freight, it stops at the Public Square. Out springs a swarm of school children. They are the boys and girls from the country on their way to the city college. While standing there in my vision, another car comes flitting in from the west, another from the northeast, another from the southeast, another from the south and another from the north, all loaded down with the same precious burden. At eventime I board a car to go to the country; it is filled to the doors with business men and school children, and the plain, busy country folks. Our line of travel is fenced with beautiful residences, with neatly kept lawns. We go on as if we were flying. I see a large building, larger than its fellows; it's the township high school where the country boys and girls are fitted for the city college.

We ride on still farther, we alight from the car at a modest but beautiful farm home. I touch the electric button; my call is answered by a neatly dressed woman, whose every action indicates education and refinement. I am ushered into the sitting room, with its richly laid carpet and its beautiful furniture; the walls are decorated with beautiful pictures, showing domestic art in the highest degree. On one



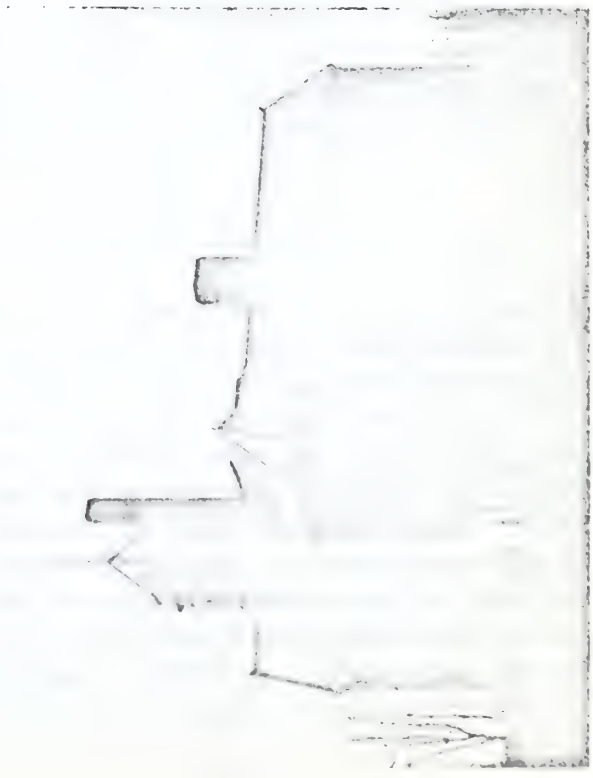
RESIDENCE OF ABRAHAM JONES,
YORK TOWNSHIP



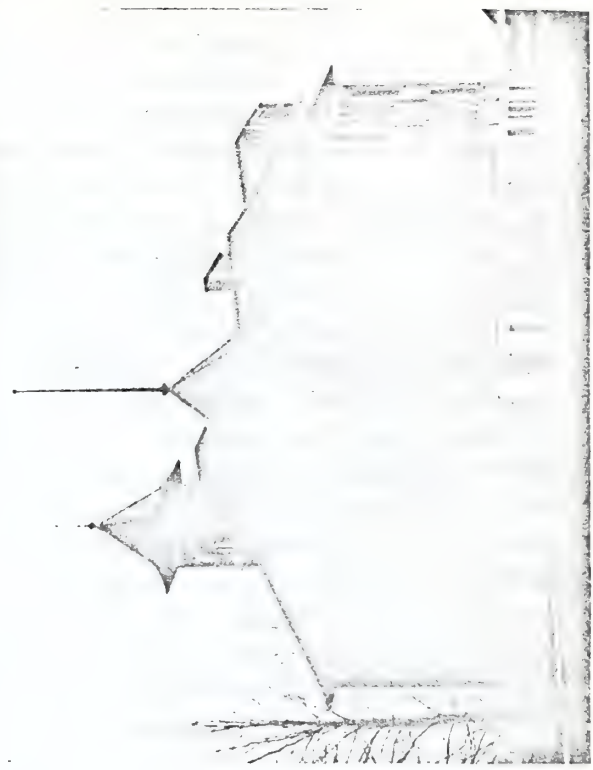
J. B. POLLOCK'S "STONE FRONT" HOUSE
PLEASANT TOWNSHIP



THOMAS MORRIS' LOG CABIN
YORK TOWNSHIP
Where the First Welsh Sunday-School in the County was
Held—in April, 1848



PUBLIC SCHOOL, OHIO CITY



PUBLIC SCHOOL, WILLSHIRE

side stands an organ; on another a piano. I look through the large arched doorway into the library; there I see a book-holder with a large volume in its embrace. I touch the spring and the book flies open; I look at the title page and see, "The Farmers' Dictionary, revised edition." I turn a few pages, I see the word "auditor,"—"A skilled accountant, a public servant, an honest man, doing business for the good of all." I turn over a few more pages and come to "business man,"—"Not confined to the city; the man with brains and energy, that does things for the good of society and the advancement of civilization."

I turn still farther. I look for "street broker,"—"A thing of the past; their place now supplanted by modern banking houses, owned and managed by honorable business men, who are willing to live and let live." I turn back a few pages. I see the word "lawyer,"—"An educated man, beautiful in his physiognomy, a toastmaster."

In conclusion, I will say I am proud of our city and country, and now extend a cordial invitation to each member of the Business Men's League, to come with their families and pay me a visit at my country home and we will try and have some doughnuts and pumpkin pies.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH,

Better known as the Walborn Church is located three miles northeast of Van Wert in Hoaglin township.

Occasionally Lutheran services were held in the homes and schoolhouses from the year 1866, conducted by Revs. Cramer and Corbett.

The members being few and scattered, no regular pastor was called until the year 1872, at which time the church society organized and called Rev. John Snyder. In August,

1873, the corner-stone of the first church was laid. At this time the members (numbering 10 or 12), being few and apparently weak, met with many discouragements but through their unyielding efforts the church was completed and consecrated in 1874. This church was made possible by two persons, viz.: Jeremiah Dippery and Mrs. Louisa Walborn, who did not withhold hand or purse until the church was completed. The latter is the oldest member of the church today. Owing to the peculiar situation of the territory from which the church draws, because of its location, and the constant removal of its members, the membership never has been large.

During the pastorate of Rev. E. M. Potts early in the year 1900, the congregation resolved to build a new church. The corner-stone was laid June 10th of the same year and the structure was consecrated January 6, 1901. The building is an attractive one and a credit to its members, who at this date number 60.

The following ministers have served the congregation since the organization: Revs. John Snyder, T. W. Corbett, George Sill, L. M. McGreery, O. Reber, B. F. Hoefer, E. M. Potts and H. N. Miller.

SKETCHES OF SOME OF THE PIONEERS.

James Harvey came to Van Wert County with his parents in 1841. After helping to clear their farm, he started out to earn one for himself, which was a slow process, as work was scarce and wages low. The writer well recalls when he was a boy that Mr. Harvey then about 17 years old, worked for his father, J. G. Gilliland, at 31 cents a day to pay for a cow Harvey's father had bought for \$8. He put in a full month plowing corn and the writer followed, setting it up. After earning money enough to buy a piece of land and arranging

a home, on October 20, 1850, he married Wilhelmina Reece. They raised a family and his sons are among the best farmers in Hoaglin township. Mr. Harvey owns a good farm and is now resting and enjoying a ripe old age. He has always held the respect and confidence of the community, in which he has lived the last 65 years.

O. H. Harvey came to Van Wert County in 1841, and it can hardly be said that he ever settled anywhere. In 1846 he married Zillabe Hoaglin, by whom he had 13 children. He built 22 houses for himself to live in, moved his family 25 times; and cleared not less than 150 acres of land in Van Wert County.

William Giffin came to Van Wert County when the north part of the county was mostly woods, with neither roads nor farms, and settled in Hoaglin township in the woods, where it required courage and hard work and plenty of it to make a home. He was county surveyor and for many years was called upon to survey for individuals.

He raised a large family. We have with us: D. J. Giffin, A. A. Giffin, I. N. Giffin and W. S. Giffin, names that are familiar to the citizens of the entire county. They are always the first and most active in all good works.

Henry Taylor came to Hoaglin township with his parents at an early day. He had his peculiarities and his faults, but his faults were his only defects and only injured himself. When he and his parents came to the county, they were poor and had not been here long when they ran out of provisions and money. Starvation, as Henry said, stared them in the face. They were strangers in a strange land; what neighbors they had were almost as poor as themselves. In this extremity Henry ap-

pealed to James G. Gilliland for help. Gilliland had no corn, which was all that was asked, but gave him a letter to a Mr. Cochran in Allen County, telling him to let Henry have all the corn he wanted and he would stand good for the pay. Henry got his corn and worked almost day and night at whatever he could get to do to get money to pay, and walked to the Auglaize River to carry the money to pay for the corn. Until they were able to clear land and raise a crop, Henry depended upon Mr. Gilliland for provisions and would drop his own work, no matter how urgent, to help Gilliland when called upon. He went even farther and, as long as he lived, he would go out of his way to do a favor for any of Mr. Gilliland's family.

Taylor had but little education, yet he was a good business man and accumulated considerable wealth. He was gifted with good mother wit and could hold his own with the best in repartee. In a conversation with the writer, one of his neighbors of many years said: "I have seen Henry tried and never found wanting, I have seen him on the witness stand when his own interests would have been served by withholding or coloring his testimony, but the truth and the whole truth came without hesitation. He was the friend of everybody, himself excepted possibly."

Elias Beamer came to Hoaglin township in 1839, being the third family to settle in the township. He was married to Delilah Eagy. They were very poor at first but industrious and honest. He was never at a loss for friends or help in time of need. His word when given was as sacred as an oath. He cleared up a farm, raised a family and died at the age of 75, leaving a character without a stain.

CHAPTER XIV

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

Organization—First Settlers and First Events—Names of Electors in 1840—Some of the Original Land Entries—Sketches of Some of the Pioneers—Wild Game in the Early Days—Interesting Pioneer Incidents—Railroads—Public Highways—The Ohio City Oil Field—Pipe Lines in Liberty Township—Churches—Towns in Liberty Township.

The commissioners at their March meeting in 1840 formed this township. The petitioners for the organization were: John Shaffer, John Schlater, William Reed, George Clouse, Daniel Riley, Peter Putman, Peter Brubaker, Emanuel Cummings, Asahel Culver, Jeremiah Agler, John Rollins and Thomas Townsend.

The first election was held at the house of Peter Putman on the first Monday of April, 1840.

The officers elected at that election were as follows: Trustees—Peter Putman, Asahel Culver and George Clouse; clerk, John Shaffer; treasurer, William Reed; constable, Thomas Redman. The first justice of the peace was Emanuel Cummings.

FIRST SETTLERS AND FIRST EVENTS.

The first settler in the township was James Hemphill from Richland County, Ohio, who settled in section 31 in the year 1837. There were no others till the spring of 1838 when Jeremiah Agler, Peter Putman, George Clouse, Madison White, John Shaffer, John Schlater

and George Shaffer came in. Daniel Riley and Graham Jewell came about the same time.

The first laid-out road in the township was known as the Mill road, running from the Rhodes Mill to Van Wert diagonally, and keeping on the highest ground, which was surveyed by John G. Morse in the fall of 1840. The viewers were William Thorn, William Priddy and William Davis. The first schoolhouse in the township was built in the fall of 1841 on the land of John Schlater. The first school was taught by Thomas Redman.

The first death was that of a child of John Shaffer named Cornelius. The first birth was that of Jacob Clouse, son of George Clouse, born November 19, 1838. The first marriage was that of Jacob Gates and Fanny Hemphill. They were married by Esquire Cummings. The first sermon preached was by Rev. Daniel Riley at the funeral of the wife of Peter Brubaker, in July, 1840.

The first round-log house was built by James Hemphill in 1837, the first hewed-log house by William Reed; the first frame house by Peter Brubaker; the first brick house by William Runbaugh.

NAMES OF ELECTORS IN 1840.

At the election held in Liberty township on October 13, 1840, there were 16 qualified electors, whose names follow. Jeremiah Agler, A. McClung, Peter Putman, John Shaffer, Samuel Hemphill, George Shaffer, George Schlater, Emanuel Cummings, George Clouse, John Frysinger, Peter Brubaker, Conrad Agler, John Temple, Graham Jewell, Ephraim Medaugh and Peter Dull. The officers in charge of the election were: Emanuel Cummings and John Schlater, judges, and John Shaffer and Peter Putman, clerks.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
1	Peter Zinn	321	1836
1	Lewis Slusser	160	1836
1	Madison Reynolds	160	1836
2	Jacob Willower	400	1836
2	Abraham Willower	80	1836
2	Abraham Hoghe	40	1847
2	William Webber, Jr.	120	1849
3	Josiah Perigo	120	1835
3	James Adams	159	1836
3	Joseph W. Burke	160	1836
3	Jacob Willower	80	1836
3	Levi Rowland	80	1837
3	John Rowland	40	1840
4	Brice Woodruff	157	1836
4	Martin Miller	157	1836
4	John Jones	160	1836
4	Levi Rowland	80	1837
4	Brice Reed	40	1839
4	Robert Wolf	40	1852
5	Robert M. Fowler	154	1836
5	John Jones	160	1836
5	Thomas McLain	276	1837
5	Shaw & Frisbie	38	1857
6	Samuel Springer	185	1837
6	John French	79	1837
6	Thomas Morehead	52	1837
6	Henry Springer	210	1837
6	Isaac Charles	160	1837
6	Joseph Craig	52	1851
7	Richard & Riley	450	1837
7	Alex. Morehead	105	1837

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
7	Henry Springer	105	1837
7	Isaac Charles	80	1837
8	George Smith	80	1836
8	John Rowland	80	1836
8	William Jackson	80	1836
8	John Lilly	80	1836
8	James Simms	80	1838
8	Henry Springer	240	1839
9	Samuel Nicholas	80	1836
9	George Smith	80	1836
9	John Rowland	80	1837
9	Franklin Culver	40	1837
9	Samuel Sayers	80	1837
9	C. Gleason	80	1838
9	Brice Reed	80	1838
9	Asahel Culver	80	1838
9	Reuben Harp	40	1841
10	Daniel Richard	160	1836
10	Philip Yant	160	1836
10	Cummins Culver	40	1837
10	James Simms	80	1838
10	William Bebb	80	1838
10	Samuel Sayers	80	1838
10	Thorn. Worley	40	1838
11	Philip Yant	40	1836
11	John W. Bowersock	40	1836
11	Daniel Yant	160	1836
11	Samuel Biddle	120	1837
11	Levi Rowland	160	1837
11	Amos Duncan	40	1837
11	William Hackett	40	1839
11	Samuel Hipshire	40	1841
12	George Smith	160	1840
12	John Wood	40	1847
12	John Young	80	1848
12	John Hipshire	40	1850
12	Henry Reese	120	1850
12	John Catell	40	1851
12	Israel Welch	40	1852
12	Charles McCusty	80	1852
12	Graham Jewell	40	1852
13	Philip Meese	160	1847
13	David Welch	40	1847
13	Hiram Carroll	80	1847
13	William Hooks	80	1847
13	John A. Smith	80	1847
13	David Casteel	180	1848
13	Jonas Harp	80	1849
14	Michael Wilson	240	1851
14	Henry Bible	160	1859
14	John Bowen	40	1858
14	William Bowen	40	1858
14	Joseph Duncan	80	1859

AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

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SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
14	John Gibbon	80	1839
15	Peter Swoveland	320	1836
15	Robert Platt	160	1837
15	Isaac Charles	160	1837
16	Fletcher & Adams	320	1854
16	Isaac Fording	160	1854
16	Philip & John Yant	160	1854
17	John Jones	320	1836
17	Henry Bryan	160	1838
17	George Speaker	80	1838
17	John B. Davidson	80	1839
18	Archibald Cluny	154	1837
18	Adam H. Exline	157	1837
18	Valentine Exline	212	1837
18	Alfred Severs	160	1838
18	Adam H. Exline	52	1838
19	George Smith	160	1836
19	Julius Johnson	104	1837
19	Daniel Tinney	80	1837
19	Valentine Exline	104	1837
19	Charlotte Spangenberg	104	1837
19	John Harrow	80	1838
19	Andrew Putman	104	1838
20	George Smith	160	1836
20	Philo S. Van Houton	160	1836
20	David Heitsman	160	1838
20	Henry Miller	80	1838
20	Daniel Rhodes	80	1839
21	Morris Chapman	80	1837
21	Moses Luther	320	1837
21	Lewis Parker	160	1837
21	William Stewart	80	1841
22	Jacob Swoveland	120	1836
22	Isaac N. Skillman	80	1837
22	Philo P. Moses	320	1837
22	Peter Swoveland	40	1838
22	Samuel Chester	80	1839
23	Henry Newman	320	1836
23	John Free	160	1836
23	Michhael Wilson	160	1836
24	John Young	80	1848
24	Elijah Clifton	40	1849
24	Charles Burke	40	1849
24	R. A. Welch	80	1849
24	John A. Ross	40	1849
24	John A. Smith	40	1849
24	McFarland & Hunter	160	1849
24	A. B. Welch	40	1849
24	John Burke	40	1850
24	John Welch	40	1850
25	Dennis Welch	40	1848
25	Collins Fox	80	1848
25	John Troup	80	1848

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
25	David Welch	80	1848
25	Rebecca Ramsey	80	1848
25	William S. Overholt	80	1849
25	George W. Wilcox	80	1849
25	Alex. Myers	40	1849
25	John Welch	40	1849
26	James McDermit	320	1836
26	James Patmon	160	1838
26	John Moore	160	1849
27	Isaac N. Skillman	80	1837
27	A. Bailey	160	1837
27	Uriah Franks	240	1837
27	James McDermit	80	1839
27	Reuben Williams	80	1841
28	Isaac N. Skillman	80	1837
28	David Byers	160	1837
28	John Vantilburg	160	1837
28	Campbell S. Keating	80	1837
28	Joseph M. Keating	80	1837
28	William Dilborn	40	1838
28	Swan & Gilliland	40	1852
29	W. G. Smith	160	1836
29	Michael Clouse	160	1837
29	Christian Wyandt	160	1837
30	W. G. Smith	160	1836
30	John Schlater	208	1837
30	Peter Putman	160	1837
30	Samuel Fortney	206	1837
31	Thomas McKee	160	1837
31	Madison H. White	264	1837
31	James Hemphill	157	1837
31	Benjamin Gates	52	1837
31	Amos Beldon	104	1837
32	Isaac N. Skillman	80	1837
32	Emanuel Cummings	120	1837
32	Henry McKee	200	1837
32	Thomas McKee	40	1837
32	Madison H. White	80	1837
32	George Swalley	80	1837
32	John Harrow	40	1838
33	Guy C. Kelsey	80	1836
33	William Redman	80	1837
33	Jacob Gardman	80	1837
33	John Fanger	160	1837
33	Alpheus White	80	1837
33	Daniel Hall	80	1837
33	Henry Miller	80	1838
34	Israel Gongway	160	1837
34	Jacob Snyder	160	1837
34	John Frysinger	40	1837
34	Jacob Frysinger	40	1837
34	John Moler	80	1848
34	Jacob Kiser	80	1848



SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
34	George Shaffer	40	1848
34	Jacob Ort	40	1850
35	John G. Denman	160	1837
35	Joshua J. Strough	120	1850
35	Henry Meese	80	1850
35	Perry Handley	40	1850
35	J. Shindledecker	40	1850
35	Cyrus Avery	40	1850
35	Peison Geissler	160	1847
36	John Heath	200	1832
36	John Dilbone	120	1837
36	Lewis Higgins	80	1837
36	Joseph Denman	80	1837
36	Isaac Strong	160	1841

SKETCHES OF SOME OF THE PIONEERS.

Of the early settlers, Mathias Tombaugh Brewer who was born in January, 1813, in Pennsylvania, came to Ohio with his parents when three years old. The experience of the Brewer family was that of many others. As soon as the clothes that they brought with them were worn out, they were replaced by home-made ones made from flax or buckskin. He was dressed in that fashion, buckskin pants and moccasins, tow-linen shirt and foxskin cap and home-made jean wammus or round-about. He came to Van Wert County in 1853 and was well known and respected. He served 10 years as township clerk, seven years as assessor, two years as township treasurer, and 18 years justice of the peace.

George Clouse was another of the early settlers of Liberty township. He and his wife came from Wayne County, Ohio, in September, 1838. When they reached their land, they unloaded their goods under two oak trees and here put up a shelter for protection until they could build a cabin. When the logs were cut for the cabin, the neighbors helped to raise it and then Mr. Clouse and his wife split clapboards for the roof and door and puncheons for the floor, these being hewn with a common axe.

They had brought a cow with them, but she died the next year and they sold their bureau so as to obtain money to buy another cow. They at one time were so hard pressed for food that Mrs. Clouse dug up seed potatoes that had been planted and roasted them but could not eat them. At one time her father came to visit them. Seeing their destitute condition he went to Shane's Crossing and bought 12 pounds of flour for which he paid \$1.

Jeremiah Agler and his wife Polly came to Liberty township in 1838 and commenced a farm in section 19. There were no roads laid out and it was difficult to reach places where supplies might be purchased if they had the means; even to procure water for cooking and drinking purposes, the women were required to go some distance to the spring, while the husband was clearing the ground for agricultural purposes. Mrs. Agler, as often as circumstances required, would secure two of her children to the bedpost while she with a strap over her shoulders and a jug in each hand would go the spring and bring back the jugs filled with water. Such was pioneer life in this county. Often while attending to family affairs, Mr. Agler would go to Piqua—60 miles—to mill and be absent several days. Sometimes for six months they did not see the face of a white person. They lived in a log cabin and it was necessary to keep the fire carefully, as matches were then unknown.

Silas Hardman was born in Virginia in the year 1844. William Hardman, his father, was a full-blood Cherokee Indian and was in the British Army in 1812. William Hardman's wife was a Spanish woman. They raised a family of nine children. William Hardman died at the age of 98 years. Silas Hardman was in the Union Army in the War of the Rebellion for two years and was twice taken prisoner; once he was recaptured by the Union

forces and once he escaped by jumping off a train while in motion and escaping in the darkness.

Philip Hertle was born in Germany in 1834 and came to America in 1852, locating soon afterward in Liberty township, Van Wert County, Ohio. His father, Jacob Hertle, was born in Germany in 1794; his mother, Elizabeth Heltman, was born in 1801. They were married in 1820. Jacob Hertle died in 1836, his wife in 1844. Philip Hertle married Agatha Lehmann in 1857 and they had eight children. Four of their boys are still living, viz: Samuel, Joseph, Albert and James, who own good farms and are among the county's best farmers, having all the latest improved machinery, both for farming and for household convenience.

When Philip started from Germany, he had just \$40 after paying his passage. This took him as far as Pittsburgh, where he found a friend who loaned him \$5, which took him to Stark County, Ohio. He remained there for six months, working all the time, and then came on to Van Wert County in November, 1852. He then worked till January for \$5, which he sent to his friend in Pittsburgh from whom he had borrowed. He now hired out for \$40 a year, and worked by the year for five years. He then got married, bought 80 acres of land in the woods, put up a cabin and commenced life in earnest. He cleared his land himself and added one farm after another until he was able to give each of his children an 80-acre farm when he came of age.

In his prime he was a man of wonderful endurance. He says that he never knew what it was to be tired until he was 45 years old, notwithstanding he was working all day and often half the night for many years.

Adam Roeder was born in Germany in 1820 and came to America when 28 years old. He remained in New Jersey one year, and then

removed to Stark County, Ohio, where he lived until 1852 when he came to Van Wert County. In 1854 he married Catherine Good. They commenced in the woods on an 80-acres tract of land. They were poor but industrious and energetic. Mr. Roeder would work for the neighbors during the day, while his wife would work in the clearing at home. Then at night they would burn brush and logs until near midnight. The same thing was repeated from day to day. Selling his farm in Pleasant township he commenced again in the woods in Liberty township on a 160-acre tract. This he cleared and put in a good state of cultivation. He was saving of his earnings and invested in land and at his death had furnished good farms for each of his children. He left them the heritage of a good name beyond reproach.

* * *

[For the valuable information contained in the succeeding portion of this chapter, the editor is indebted to Capt. W. T. Exline, of Liberty township.]

WILD GAME IN THE EARLY DAYS.

At the time of the first settlement of Liberty township, wild game was plentiful, such as deer, wolves, bears and fur-bearing animals of all kinds, such as opossums, raccoons, minks and skunks. The beaver had all disappeared some years previous but traces of their work are still visible in section 8. Where they built the dams across the Twenty-seven Prairie their work can be traced, resembling lines of entrenchments constructed by an army for self-defense. The last wolf killed in the township was killed by Alexander Putman. He was calling wild turkeys by mimicking their call, when a wolf supposing he was a turkey approached him, expecting to feast on wild turkey. Putman saw him place

his fore feet on a log, listening to catch the sound of the supposed wild turkey's call, and shot him while in this position. This occurred late in the '50's. In the year 1856 Samuel Shafer found and secured a litter of young wolves, in a hollow elm log near the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 17, land now owned by W. T. Exline. John Agler shot and killed the last lynx that was killed in the township.

INTERESTING PIONEER INCIDENTS.

Early in the history of the first settlement of Liberty township, many events transpired in the experience of the early pioneers that would be very interesting reading at this time if they were remembered. The early pioneers have passed away and their unrecorded experiences as related by them have mostly been forgotten. One incident, out of many that occurred, happened to William Stewart, who was among the first to settle in the township. He had been one day at a raising of a cabin a mile or two from his home. The wolves followed him and to escape from them he climbed a tree. He was kept on the tree all night by the wolves, and as the weather was somewhat cold, he almost perished.

Another incident remembered occurred in the spring of 1852, while W. T. Exline and his father, Valentine Exline, were cultivating a field of corn on the Culver farm near the angling road known as the Van Wert and Rhodes Mill road, also near where said road crossed the Twenty-seventh Prairie. A couple of large wolves attacked a yearling heifer belonging to John Rowland. It was dinner time and the animal was standing in the middle of the road, when the wolves made their attack. In less time almost than it would take to tell it, the wolves killed the animal and dragged her

into the brush beside the road. Mr. Rowland who was going to his dinner, heard the animal bawl; suspecting that the wolves had attacked one of his young cattle, he quickly got his gun and dog and started for the place where the heifer was, but the wolves had dispatched her before he got there, as he had upwards of a half mile or more to go to reach the place. His dog, which was a large, powerful one, took after the wolves and attacked them but was killed by them.

RAILROADS.

Liberty township has three leading railroad lines traversing its territory. These roads intersect and cross each other at Ohio City. The Toledo, St. Louis & Western Railroad, commonly called the "Clover Leaf Route," was the first line constructed. Dr. C. A. Evans, of Delphos, Ohio, was the leading spirit in what was called the Delphos & Kokomo Narrow-Gauge Railroad. A meeting was held in the Center schoolhouse in Liberty township in the summer of 1878, to discuss the building of this road from Delphos to Willshire by the farmers of Washington, Jennings, York, Liberty and Willshire townships. There was a general attendance of Liberty township's citizens at this meeting H. C. Williams was chosen chairman and W. T. Exline, secretary, of the meeting. Among those from other townships who were present at this meeting were Dr. C. A. Evans, D. W. Evans, Morgan H. Morgan and Dr. Shaffner. Dr. C. A. Evans addressed the meeting, and discussed the propriety of building a narrow-gauge railroad from Delphos to Willshire by the farmers along said line—the farmers to build, own and operate said line when constructed. This proposition was quite generally discussed. Every one present had the privilege of expressing their views on the



subject. Suffice it to say that the proposition of building said line from Delphos to Willshire was favorable received. An organization was effected, capital stock subscribed and a charter secured. Among the farmers who subscribed to the capital stock were D. W. Evans, Morgan H. Morgan, John A. Smith, W. T. Exline and H. C. Mills. The first officers of the company were. Dr. C. A. Evans, of Delphos, president; Morgan H. Morgan, secretary; and D. W. Evans, treasurer. The directors of the company were Dr. C. A. Evans, Morgan H. Morgan, D. W. Evans, John A. Smith, H. C. Mills and Dr. J. F. Shaffner. The organization having been effected, the first thing to be done was to secure the funds necessary for the construction and equipment of the proposed railroad. It was arranged by the officers of the company that they would take subscriptions from farmers and others interested in the construction of the road, for which notes were given, made payable on the first day of January, 1879, at which time the road was to be completed or to be placed in such condition that a locomotive could pass over the line from Delphos to Willshire. This requirement had to be complied with in order to secure the validity of the obligations given by the farmers and others for the road's construction. In order to comply with this requirement, for the last mile or two near Willshire the ties were laid on a snow road-bed and the rails temporarily laid thereon. The amount secured from farmers and others for the construction of this line amounted to \$68,000. The contract for the construction of the road was given to General McKee, of Norwalk, Ohio. The officers of the company purchased the rails for the road of General Thomas, of Columbus, Ohio, giving their joint dividend note for the same, and depositing the notes they had secured for the construction of the road with

General Thomas as collateral security for the note they had jointly signed. Here the officers of the company got themselves in a dilemma. The notes given for the construction of the road, the proceeds of which they expected to use in paying for the rails they had purchased, were held as collateral security. The obligations were good and collectable and were also due, but they were not presented for payment; and the joint note given by the officers became due also and was not paid, General Thomas sent these notes to a Lima bank for collection. A scheme was concocted by which these notes were to be sold to the highest bidder. Fortunately for the officers of the company, they discovered the scheme for disposing of these notes in time to frustrate it. Morgan H. Morgan went to Columbus, Ohio, to see General Thomas, armed with a letter from the county auditor of Van Wert County, stating that these notes were all on responsible persons and were all collectable, and recommending that General Thomas give Morgan H. Morgan an order ordering the bank to turn over these notes to him for collection, which he did. The notes were collected without delay by Mr. Morgan and the proceeds applied to the purposes for which they were given. After the road was constructed, it soon became apparent to the officers of the road that it took railroad men, and not farmers, to operate a railroad successfully. This line was soon extended north-eastward to Toledo, Ohio, and westward to Frankfort, Indiana, under the management of a new company and a consolidated line. The narrow-gauge system was changed to a standard-gauge road. It was considered cheaper to change the gauge to a standard gauge than to build a narrow-gauge outlet to New York and other eastern cities on the Atlantic coast.

The Cincinnati Northern, a north and

south line, was the second railroad built through Liberty township. The citizens of Van Wert, immediately after the line from Delphos to Willshire was established, constructed a narrow-gauge road from Van Wert to intersect the Delphos & Kokomo Narrow-Gauge line, as it was first called. The point of intersection was in the woods about seven miles south of Van Wert. No public road leading to it, the point of intersection was first called Van Wert Junction, and the postoffice was named Koogle. A short time after these roads were constructed, Butler, Patterson & Company purchased the land where these roads intersected, of S. White, of Cleveland, Ohio, and established the town of Enterprise (now known as Ohio City), which is located very near the center of Liberty township. This road was extended north to Jackson, Michigan, and south to Cincinnati, Ohio, and was changed to a standard-gauge line. Local aid was voted by townships under a special law authorizing township trustees to build railroads. Bonds were issued by the township trustees of those townships that voted local aid by taxation, and placed on the market and sold, and the money obtained from their sale was used for the construction and equipment of the line. The law was afterward held by the Supreme court to be unconstitutional. The bonds were never redeemed. A great wrong was certainly done by not reimbursing the parties who put up the money for the bonds. They should have had their money returned or else they should have held an equivalent interest in the road.

Almost simultaneous with the building of these two lines through Liberty township, another east and west line was projected from Marion, Ohio, was the first president of the was originally named the Chicago & Atlantic Railroad. This line is now known as the Chi-

cago & Erie Railroad. General Robinson, of Marion, Ohio, was the first president of the Chicago & Atlantic Railroad Company. The right of way, 100 feet wide, was secured from Marion, Ohio to Chicago, Illinois. The next step taken was to bond this right of way for \$25,000 per mile. The interest on these bonds was guaranteed to be paid by the Erie Railroad Company in consideration of being allowed to use this line, when completed, for a Chicago outlet. The line was a standard-gauge road from the beginning. The bonds thus guaranteed were placed on the market and sold at par. The contract for the construction and equipment of this line was awarded to Col. S. P. Smith, of New York. When the bonds became due, they were taken up by the Erie Railroad Company and the Chicago & Atlantic Railroad was absorbed by the Erie and became a part of the Erie line. One remarkable feature about the construction of this line is not one cent of local aid was asked by the Company from citizens of Van Wert County. The company also paid for every foot of the right of way at a fair price per acre.

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

The leading public highways of Liberty township are mostly all piked. The material used in constructing these pike roads was crushed limestone. At a special election held in the township the people authorized the bonding of the township for pike improvements. Township bonds were issued by the trustees of the township and sold to the highest bidder to obtain funds to pay for building pike roads. These bonds, with the annual interest thereon, are paid by taxation as they become due.

With pike roads, rural free delivery and rural telephone lines, the citizens of Liberty township have the advantage of being supplied

with all modern improvements and up-to-date conveniences.

THE OHIO CITY OIL FIELD.

The first oil-well drilled in the Ohio City field was drilled in by C. S. King & Company, of Lima, Ohio, on the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 18, Liberty township, on land owned by Valentine Exline's heirs. The first oil piped into the line was from this well. This was in the month of February, 1902. The second well in the Ohio City field was drilled by the same company on the southwest quarter of section 17, land owned by W. T. Exline. The third well drilled in this same field—the first gusher in the Ohio City oil field—was drilled on the farm of W. N. Williams in section 21, Liberty township.

The second gusher came in a short time after the Williams. It was drilled by the Ohio Oil Company, on land owned by Andrew Medaugh in Willshire township, about one mile west of Dull station. The third gusher was drilled on the farm of W. H. Ayers. These three gushers coming in quick succession raised the oil excitement to a fever heat. Oil men from everywhere came to see the new oil field and secure leases. Over 200 oil-wells have been drilled in Liberty township. A gusher was drilled in very recently on Mrs. Louisa Tickel's farm in section 21, one mile west of Ohio City.

While the oil excitement has abated in a measure in this field, the rush having extended to other newly discovered oil fields, yet the Ohio City oil field has only been partially developed and oil operations in this field will be continued for a number of years to come. The oil boom, as it was, may not return, but a steady development of this field will bring its

reward. Everybody was benefited by the oil boom, business men and laboring men alike.

PIPE LINES IN LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

There are three pipe lines laid through Liberty township; these lines extend from Lima to Chicago. Two of these lines are on the south side of the right of way of the Chicago & Erie Railroad; the third line is contiguous to the other two, but not on the railroad company's land, the right to lay another line having been secured from the farmers residing along the other two lines. A fourth line will be constructed this spring (1906); it is to be laid in close proximity to the three already laid.

The pipes laid in these lines are all eight inches in diameter. For the privilege of laying their line through their farms, the pipe line company pays the farmers 25 cents per rod and all damages to crops and timber destroyed by reason of the laying of these lines. The lines are buried to a depth of two feet on an average.

CHURCHES.

There are nine church organizations in Liberty township at the present time; also nine organized Sabbath-schools and nine church buildings—three brick and six frame structures.

There are three Methodist Episcopal churches in the township, namely: North Liberty Methodist Episcopal Church, Walnut Grove Methodist Episcopal Church and Ohio City Methodist Episcopal Church. Each of these church societies has a good frame church building in which to worship.

The denomination known as the Church of

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS
540 EAST 58TH STREET, CHICAGO, ILL. 60637

Dear Mr. [Name]:

I am writing to you regarding your application for admission to the University of Chicago. Your application has been received and is currently under review. We are interested in your background and your interest in the field of [Field].

We are looking for students who are academically strong and who have a strong interest in the field of [Field]. We are also looking for students who are well-rounded and who have a strong sense of community. We are interested in students who are able to contribute to the University and who are able to work with others.

We are looking for students who are able to work with others and who are able to contribute to the University. We are interested in students who are able to work with others and who are able to contribute to the University. We are looking for students who are able to work with others and who are able to contribute to the University.

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God has two church organizations—one called the Church of God, of Ohio City, and one called the Olive Branch Church of God, of South Liberty. Both of these organizations have frame church buildings.

The United Brethren Church has two organized churches. The one called the Liberal U. B. Church, of South Liberty, has a new brick church building. The one called the Radical U. B. Church, of Northwest Liberty, has a frame church edifice, which was formerly the Wolf schoolhouse.

The Evangelical Church, of Northeast Liberty, and St. John's General Synod Lutheran Church, of Ohio City, are the oldest established churches in the township. Both have new brick church buildings.

TOWNS IN LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

There are only two towns or villages in Liberty township.

Ohio City, formerly called "Enterprise," is located near the center of the township in section 22; later additions to the town are in section 15. This town was originally laid out by Butler, Patterson & Company. On account of there being another town in the State by the name of Enterprise, which frequently caused mail and express packages to be mis-sent, the name was changed to Ohio City to avoid this trouble.

There are three church organizations and three church edifices in Ohio City, two of the

church buildings being of frame and one of brick. There is one Union school building.

The village has one bank, two dry goods stores, one clothing store, two hardware stores, two millinery establishments, one bakery, three hotels, three restaurants, four saloons, two shoe shops, one tailor shop, one silver-smith shop, three livery barns, one slack barrel factory, one lumberyard, and two black-smith shops. The three railroads all use the centrally located Union Depot. The town is also well supplied with telephone service.

The village of McKee was laid out by J. M. Dull, Martin Lintermoot and Nicholas Fry in 1879 at a point in sections 19 and 20 where the McSherry road crosses the "Clover Leaf" Railroad. It is $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles west of Ohio City. This village is more particularly known as Dull station, and Dull P. O. At the present time there is one store that handles dry goods and groceries, poultry, eggs and butter. The proprietor is Lemuel Rutledge, who is also the railroad agent and postmaster.

The Standard Oil Company have their pumping station located here, where all the oil produced in the Ohio City oil field is received; from here it is pumped into the pipe lines that are laid from Lima to Chicago. There are 12 dwelling houses in this village. The warehouse formerly here has been removed. The tile factory, where so many tile were formerly manufactured, has also been removed.

CHAPTER XV

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Organization—First Settlers and First Events—Early Elections—Some of the Original Land Entries—Incidents of Pioneer Times—Middlepoint—The City of Delphos, Its Founder, Settlement, Industries, Newspapers, Hotels, Postoffices, Railroads, Public Schools and Churches.

Washington township was set off as a civil township at a meeting of the commissioners held March 2, 1840, and an election of township officers was ordered to take place at the schoolhouse on the first Monday in April, 1840.

FIRST SETTLERS AND FIRST EVENTS.

The first settler in the township was Oliver Stacy, who came in February, 1836. During the summer and fall of 1836 Nathan Davis, Nathaniel, Ashabel and Orrin Burright, David King and John Summersett took up homes in this township.

Oliver Stacy built the first log house in the township and it was still standing and occupied in 1882. The first schoolhouse was built on the land of David King in the fall of 1837, and the first school was taught by Clarissa Gleason. The first road in the township was the Bucyrus and Fort Wayne that followed the Indian trail from Upper Sandusky to Fort Wayne. For many years this was known as the Sugar Ridge road, clear across the country. The first church was organized at the King schoolhouse in the fall of 1848. Prior to that the settlers attended church in Ridge township.

EARLY ELECTIONS.

An election for justice of the peace was held in Washington township on the 8th of June, 1840. Ten votes were cast, of which Thomas W. Bowdle received seven and Oliver Stacy, three.

On the 12th of October, 1841, an election was held in Washington township for members of the State Legislature and county officers, at which there were 11 votes cast. The electors were: John Cavett, William Nuttle, Abraham Hire, James G. Cavett, Jr., T. W. Pring, John D. Cavett, David Pring, Thomas W. Bowdle, John Hire, Orrin Burright and William Todd. John D. Cavett and William Nuttle, the clerks of the election, and James Cavett, James G. Cavett, Jr. and T. W. Pring, the judges, issued the following certificate as to the result of the balloting:

"We do hereby certify that Jacob Clark had four votes for Senator; Robert A. Forsythe had seven votes for Senator. John W. Walters had four votes for Representative; James B. Steadman had four votes for Representative; Calvin T. Pomeroy had seven votes for Representative. P. J. Hines

had three votes for Treasurer; James G. Gilliland had eight votes for Treasurer. Stephen Gleason had five votes for Commissioner; James Johnson had six votes for Commissioner. Thomas R. Kear had four votes for Sheriff; Samuel M. Clark had seven votes for Sheriff. Cyrenus Elliott had three votes for Surveyor; John G. Morse had eight votes for Surveyor. B. B. Woodcock had four votes for Coroner; William Parent had seven votes for Coroner. Edward R. Wells had seven votes for Auditor."

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
1	John F. Bosche	663	1853
2	Wykoff & Davenport	332	1836
2	William Bebb	165	1836
2	Joseph Eicholt	125	1847
2	Robert Brown	40	1850
3	John Elwell	42	1836
3	Thomas A. Washburn	127	1853
3	Joseph Eicholt	42	1853
3	Pierce Murphy	42	1853
3	John Ferrel	42	1853
3	Franklin Elliott	400	1859
4	Mathew Ridenour	80	1851
4	Ephraim Friezner	84	1852
4	Albert F. Sargent	41	1852
4	William Hilgard	42	1852
4	David Krouse	166	1852
4	Joseph Harsh	80	1852
4	J. S. Jones	80	1852
4	George Lance	40	1852
4	Fred McDorman	40	1852
5	John Aldridge	160	1837
5	Wallace Aldridge	160	1837
5	David Lloyd	160	1839
5	R. E. Thomas	124	1839
5	Thomas J. Chamberlin	41	1839
6	John Williams	176	1836-35
6	Joseph Beamer	80	1837
6	John Reed	94	1837
6	Jesse Hoffman	94	1839
6	Martin Miller	168	1839
6	Zach. Stewart	80	1839
7	William Priddy	132	1835-30
7	Samuel Knittle	176	1836
7	George P. Tiffany	80	1837

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
7	Wallace Aldridge	80	1837
7	James Gilliland	160	1838
7	Ludwig E. Hertz	44	1838
8	Hiram Langdon	80	1837
8	James Gilliland	160	1838
8	William Bebb	80	1838
8	Samuel Helm	240	1839
8	Henry W. Helm	80	1851
9	Daniel Clinger	40	1852
9	William E. Brown	280	1853
9	Thomas Elcock	160	1853
9	David M. Jones	80	1853
9	Fred Glick	40	1853
9	David J. Borman	40	1853
10	C. A. Curtis	40	1850
10	Charles Moor	40	1850
10	Isaac Harp	80	1850
10	John C. Carpenter	40	1851
10	Joseph Klinger	120	1851
10	Lewis Cordeman	160	1851
10	James Pettit	80	1851
10	Grandison Curtis	40	1851
10	James Bryan	40	1851
11	William Helnikamp	80	1844
11	John H. Hoffman	80	1845
11	James W. Carpenter	80	1851
11	John H. Merchant	80	1851
11	Stanton C. Dix	40	1851
11	John H. Weichard	40	1851
11	John C. Carpenter	40	1851
11	David Clouse	160	1851
11	Francis Kemper	40	1851
12	Job H. Jackson	80	1854
12	Simon Perkins	400	1855
12	Joseph Eicholt	80	1857
12	George Welte	40	1859
12	Peter Reese	40	1859
13	Nicholas Baker	200	1855
13	Conrad Wellman	80	1855
13	Guilford D. Heilman	80	1855
13	George Miller	40	1845
13	George Vitter	40	1845
13	Casper Leppold	80	1845
14	Henry S. Wykoff	160	1835
14	David Brewer	160	1835
14	Demas Adams	320	1839
15	George Schummoller	80	1837
15	John G. Staugh	160	1838
15	Bernhard Eicholt	80	1839
15	Andrew Shoemaker	80	1839
15	Henry Hand	120	1839
15	Jacob Long	120	1839
16	Henry B. Brown	160	1838

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.	SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
16	Emanuel Shupe	160	1853	25	Christ Longemeyer	40	1845
16	James Callahan	80	1853	25	Jacob Hittle	40	1845
16	A. J. Ireland	80	1853	26	Hugh S. Wykof	160	1835
16	E. N. Martin	80	1853	26	George S. Beer	160	1835
16	John Priddy	80	1853	26	George Marsh	80	1835
17	Oliver Stacy	360	1835	26	Jacob Puterbaugh	160	1835
17	David King	80	1835	26	Conrad Baumgartner	40	1835
17	Abraham Hire	80	1835	26	John H. Baumgartner	40	1835
17	A. E. Curtis	40	1848	27	B. Grief	80	1845
17	P. L. Cobb	20	1849	27	John B. Bertling	40	1845
18	David Simms	212	1835	27	Fred Linderman	80	1845
18	David King	40	1835	27	Hiram Baker	85	1848
18	Abraham Hire	80	1836	27	Henry Gerdeman	120	1848
18	Nathan David	168	1836	27	Herman Busch	40	1848
18	Samuel Wilkinson	88	1836	27	John Linderman	80	1848
18	Isaiah Perigo	40	1836	27	Mathias King	80	1851
18	James B. Randolph	44	1836	28	Edward Bebb	640	1836
19	Orrin Burrigh	160	1836	29	Jacob G. Saffer	160	1836
19	Walter J. Craft	88	1836	29	James H. Mitchell	80	1836
19	John McCullough	160	1836	29	Isaac DeLong	80	1837
19	Ashbel Burrigh	176	1836	29	T. W. King	160	1838
19	Joseph Cavett	88	1836	29	Seth Matton	80	1838
20	Samuel Breeze	160	1836	29	Oliver Stacy	80	1838
20	Henry Shaver	80	1836	30	William Bebb	160	1836
20	Samuel Parsons	320	1836	30	T. J. Crafts	336	1836
20	William Bebb	80	1838	30	Comfort Barnes	88	1837
21	Nicholas Smith	80	1848	30	Thomas W. Bowdell	88	1837
21	Francis C. Walden	40	1849	31	William Bebb	160	1836
21	John G. Stough	80	1849	31	T. J. Crafts	336	1836
21	E. H. Curtis	40	1849	31	Thomas Pollock	152	1836
21	John M. Henry	80	1849	32	John McCullough	160	1836
21	E. J. Leypoole	80	1849	32	Addison McCullough	160	1836
21	David King	160	1851	32	John Montgomery	320	1836
21	David Landner	40	1851	33	Michael Strippich	640	1848
22	William Thomas	160	1833	34	Fred Marquand	160	1835
22	Henry S. Wykoff	160	1833	34	Daniel Brewer	480	1835
22	E. Bebb	160	1836	35	Henry Trentman	80	1845
22	John C. Hawkins	40	1847	35	John H. France	80	1845
22	O. R. Beckwith	40	1848	35	David Sudmiller	40	1845
22	E. R. Curtis	80	1850	35	John Grothouse	40	1845
23	Samuel Farrer	480	1834	35	William Beekman	80	1845
23	Van Horn & Aughenbaugh	160	1834	35	M. Kabeeman	40	1848
23	Abraham Evans	40	1845	35	Henry Baumgartner	40	1848
23	Mary Carmode	80	1845	35	Mark Halter	160	1849
23	Mathias Hemker	80	1845	36	Guilford D. Coleman	240	1834
23	John H. Ripenhoff	40	1845	36	Martin Boher	320	1834
23	Anton Holtengrave	40	1845	36	George Marsh	40	1835
23	Mathias Dratmann	40	1845	36	Robert Thomas	40	1847
23	William Cochran	40	1845				
23	S. L. Hittle	120	1845				
23	Casper Geise	40	1845				
25	Ferdinand Bredeick	240	1845				
25	G. D. Coleman	240	1845				
25	John Grothouse	80	1845				

INCIDENTS OF PIONEER TIMES.

In 1843 butter was 4 cents per lb., wheat 40 cents per bushel, cows \$8 and horses \$40 a

head and wages for laboring men 25 cents per day (except in harvest time when a hand was paid 50 cents or a bushel of wheat).

The following invitation to a dance was sent out. It was written on a shingle and sent around by a messenger; each one was allowed to read it and then it was passed on. It read, "You are invited to attend a dance tonight. Some one will call for you at seven o'clock sharp. Don't forget your boots."

James G. Gilliland and Adam Gilliland cut the first road from the Auglaize to within three miles of Van Wert. They followed the Indian trail and were three days making the trip.

In 1845 E. N. Martin built the first sawmill in Delphos, and in 1847 the first flouring mill, four stories high with three runs of burrs. This was the first grist-mill that was nearer to the residents of Van Wert County than Fort Wayne or Piqua, except the little horse mills for grinding corn. Later he built a woolen mill.

During the time Rev. Thomas Elcock was preaching in Delphos, there was a long dry spell and at church service on the Sabbath Mr. Elcock prayed very fervently for rain. After dismissing the congregation and coming out of the church, he met one of his congregation (Dudley Hoover), who had gone out to investigate, who said, "Father Elcock, it is no use to pray for rain as long as the wind is in the northwest."

An accident occurred near Delphos in the early days of the settlement that shows the effect the mind has on the rest of the body. Two neighbors went to the woods to get a load of wood, taking along a sled and yoke of oxen. In preparing the wood, one of them sunk his axe into his boot. Seeing what he took to be blood he became very sick and had to be helped to the sled. They started for home in a hurry

and could not urge the oxen to go fast enough. He said he knew he was bleeding to death and that his boot was already full. On reaching home he had to be carried into the house. On taking off his boot, what was there surprise to find that his foot had not been cut. Before starting out on the trip, he had wrapped red flannel around his feet and had then drawn his socks over the flannel. He had forgotten this circumstance and seeing the red flannel took it for granted that it was blood. He put his boot on and went back after his load of wood.

MIDDLEPOINT.

This village is situated on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway, half way between Van Wert and Delphos. It was laid out in 1852 by L. B. and H. N. Sykes, and since then there have been several additions added to it. In 1900 it had a population of 604. It has two elevators that do a large grain business. Here is located one of the largest stone quarries that can be found in this part of Ohio, which quarry gives employment to from 70 to 80 hands the year around and furnishes stone for building and piking, as well as for ballasting railroads.

The village was incorporated November 10, 1874, and the following officers were elected: Mayor, William Foster; treasurer, D. J. Davis; clerk, D. F. Cook; councilmen—Dr. A. C. Beaghtler, W. S. Nelson, A. Fife, George Fairfield, G. S. Nutt, and Dr. J. A. Estill; marshal, W. T. Manship.

Middlepoint now has three general stores—owned by A. A. Manship, Baxter Brothers and W. Askin & Son—where dry goods, groceries and boots and shoes are sold; two drug stores—owned by H. A. Mohler and P. W. Speker; one shoe store, one millinery establishment.

two meat markets, two barber shops, one hotel, two restaurants, three blacksmith shops, one dealer in hardware and farm implements, three coal dealers, one lumber dealer, one sawmill operator and dealer in native lumber, one printing office, one livery barn, one undertaker and one real estate dealer, who also conducts a fire insurance and a pension business. The Middlepoint Home Telephone Company furnishes excellent telephone service.

The village has four churches—Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran and Friends. The graded public school has four teachers and a course of study covering 10 years. Here is also the seat of the Western Ohio Normal School. The town has two physicians—Drs. L. E. Ladd and L. E. Beagler.

THE CITY OF DELPHOS

Is situated in Washington township, Van Wert County and Marion township, Allen County, the city being quite evenly divided by the Miami and Erie Canal, the portion on the east side of the canal being in the latter county. Delphos in 1900 had a population of 4,517; of this 2,228 belonged to Van Wert County and 2,289 to Allen County.

The first plat of the town was made by Ferdinand Bredeick on the west side of the canal. Rev. John Otto Bredeick, coming two years later, laid out the addition on the east side of the canal. In doing this, he showed great foresight in reserving a large plat of ground for church purposes. The wisest in that day would scarcely contemplate it ever being needed for the purpose for which it was dedicated. This he gave as a free gift. Ferdinand Bredeick entered the land on which Delphos was located in 1845. Hollister & Bliss laid out an addition to Delphos on the east side of the canal, which was called "Section Ten." Samuel Forrer laid out an addition to Delphos

on the west side of the canal, which was called Howard Town." Thus for a number of years it was East Bredeick, West Bredeick, Section Ten and Howard Town, the former two being settled by Germans, and the latter two by English-speaking people. It was finally decided to adopt one name for the four sections and at a meeting called for that purpose, the name "Delphos" was suggested by Father Bredeick and was adopted, the name meaning "from nothing to a great city." From the date of the adoption of the common name, all jealousies ceased and all from that day to this have been zealous workers for the common good. It is not often that a community can be so thoroughly united in working for each enterprise as it comes up. To this harmony of action is to be credited the accomplishment of so much in the way of inducing manufactories to locate here, and in the building of the railroads that reach out from the city's midst. All but the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago had their initiation in that town and to the force and energy of her citizens depended their being pushed to final success.

Delphos was incorporated in 1851 and the first election was held March 3, 1851, at which Col. Lester Bliss was elected mayor; Smith Talbot, recorder; and N. White, J. P. Cowan, J. P. Murphy and Theodore Wrocklage, councilmen.

Among the first merchants might be mentioned in order: Ferdinand Bredeick, Gilmore & Scott, Esch & Wrocklage, Hollister & Bliss, White & Newton and Bope & Lye.

To the liberal views held by Father Bredeick can also be ascribed much of the success of Delphos. Instead of holding the views that we would expect of one direct from the old country, he adopted the broadest and most liberal American views. He encouraged those of other nationalities to settle and intermingle with

his people and was as ready to assist one as another. He gave to the Presbyterians a lot on which to build a church, and counseled his people to assist and encourage other denominations. He said he did not want a Catholic town, as that would make the people selfish and narrow. He wanted all classes and all creeds to commingle.

The pioneers physicians were Osborn, Metcalf, Conklin, Butler, Penington, H. P. Wagner, in 1847; C. A. Evans, Davenport, Burkholder and Ruel, in 1850. Joseph Hunt owned a drug store and made a contract with a firm of chemists to take all the slippery elm bark he could furnish in a given time. He bought all he could contract and, as all the ridges had an abundance of red elm, he soon had many tons. When he commenced shipping it in, car-load after car-load, the firm saw they were swamped and called a halt, while he still had many car-loads on hand. The matter was finally settled by the contract being canceled, with full payment to Mr. Hunt for the bark on hand.

Industries.—The ashery was an important branch of business in the early days and was carried on extensively by Bernard Esch and later by Wrocklage & Stallkamp. J. C. Moennig operated the first tannery and A. Diffinbaugh the second. The first blacksmith was John DeCamp.

Among the Delphos enterprises that have contributed largely to the prosperity of the town are the Delphos Handle Factory, the Ohio Wheel Company, the Delphos Stave Company and the Pittsburgh Hoop & Stave Company. These companies were of immense importance to the town of Delphos and of equal importance to the surrounding country. In many cases industrious men with means enough to make the first payment on a piece of land would in a few years have the land paid for, and at the same time a farm cleared up—all

from the proceeds of the timber that was purchased by these factories. The flouring mill built by E. N. Martin later passed into the hands of Abraham Miller and Peter W. Morton, and at a still later date T. F. Conklin and J. Shotwell obtained a part interest. Subsequently it passed back into the hands of Miller & Morton. It was of immense importance to the town, as farmers came 15 and 20 miles to mill. The milling property has now passed into the hands of Dalby & Morton and is known as the Delphos Roller Mills; the product has retained its old-time popularity and very deservedly so.

Newspapers.—The first newspaper was issued by Benjamin Metcalf in 1849 and called the *Section Ten Budget*. It existed about one year and was followed by the *Delphos Oracle*, edited by Noah Huber; he was succeeded by O. H. Perry, and he in turn by Bell, who published it until 1854 when the paper expired. In 1854 the *Northwestern Republican*, with S. E. Brown as editor, was established. This lived a little more than one year. From this date until 1869 there was no paper established in Delphos. Then the *Herald* made its appearance, the editor being D. H. Tolan, who was later associated with his son, C. M. Tolan. The *Courant* was established in 1877 with F. B. Walkup as editor. It was started as a weekly but was later made a tri-weekly (about 1894) and finally became a semi-weekly. Mr. Walkup continued as editor of the twice-week *Courant* until January 4, 1902, when J. W. Fisher purchased the plant and assumed the management as proprietor and editor. At the present time Mr. Fisher is publishing a very readable paper, devoted to the best interests of his patrons and of Delphos in particular.

Hotels.—The first hotel, which was opened in the spring of 1845, was built by Morg

Savage, and was named "Travelers' Rest;" it stood at the corner of Canal and Second streets. The second was built by James Graver, also in 1845, and was called the "Ohio House." The third was kept by a man named Butler opposite the City Hall; this also was established in 1845. In 1846 the American House was built at the corner of Main and Fourth streets. Then came the Neil, at the corner of Main and Third streets, which was built in 1847. The Union or Hecker House was built in 1848; the Commercial House in 1847; the Pennsylvania House, in 1855, by Henry Brown; the Phelan House, in 1880; the Rose House, in 1881.

Postoffice.—The first postoffice was kept in a small room built on the platform of the lock between the gates, on the Van Wert side. Amos Clutter was postmaster in 1847. That was before the time of postage stamps. Letters were marked "Paid" or "Postage Due" as the case might be. You could send a letter and let the party receiving it pay the postage. Lynn succeeded Clutter and held the office until 1853, when Winchton Risley was appointed and held it until his death in September, 1854. Mrs. Mary Risley was then appointed and held the office for 25 years. Then followed Cowdin, Shenk, Baxter, Washburn and Weger, the present incumbent.

Railroads.—The first railroad completed to Delphos was the Ohio & Indiana (now the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago) in 1854. Much of the iron for its construction was shipped on the canal from Toledo. Woolson & McCune took the contract for bringing the iron to Delphos. Captain Fisher bought a boat in Toledo named "Seneca Chief" and McCune owned a boat named "Damsel"—these two boats brought the iron to Delphos. The first railroad locomotive used on this line was named "Lima" and was brought from Toledo

to Delphos on a canal boat by Casper Smith and put on the track here for construction work. Captain Fisher took the contract to dig the basin just west of the Mills elevator for the purpose of anchoring these boats, while unloading the railroad iron and supplies.

The formal opening of the Delphos & Indianapolis Railroad took place July 4, 1875, when there were only six miles completed. In 1876 it was extended to Dupont and then in sections until it was connected with a road leading out from Toledo. In 1878 the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City Railroad was completed. The Cleveland, Delphos & St. Louis (now the Northern Ohio) was built in 1881, and also the extension of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton from Delphos to where it intersects the Findlay & Fort Wayne. All except the last named were what was known as narrow-gauge roads and at one time constituted a continuous line of over 700 miles of narrow-gauge roads, the longest in the world. It is safe to say that to Delphos they owed not only their origin but their final success. In operating these lines it was demonstrated that it was not profitable to operate the two systems in the same territory and the narrow-gauge roads gave way and were made standard almost in a day.

Public Schools.—The schools in Delphos are worthy of notice. Until 1859 the schools had been operated separately in each county. On January 29, 1859, by a vote it was decided to organize the Delphos Union School District under the general law. The First Board of Education under the new arrangement consisted of Charles C. Marshal, F. J. Lye, H. Weible, Col. Lester Bliss, M. Brickner and S. F. Conklin. C. P. Washburn was placed in charge of the highest grade in the public school.

In April, 1868, the district voted to levy a tax and issue bonds for the erection of a new



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, DELPHOS.

schoolhouse, which was completed in 1869. W. H. Wolfe was chosen superintendent, and the schools were organized and graded in the new building. In 1870 J. F. Jones was chosen superintendent and in 1871 W. H. Wolfe was again chosen. In 1873 E. W. Hastings was chosen and held the position until 1900, when he resigned. G. W. Lewis was then chosen and served for two years, when T. W. Shimp, the present superintendent, was chosen.

They have four school buildings—Jefferson Street Building, Franklin Street Building, German Building and South Delphos Building,—and a corps of 22 teachers. The schools have attained a very high standard.

Churches.—The Church of St. John the Evangelist at Delphos owes its origin to a Catholic priest—Rev. John Otto Bredeick. In October, 1844, he came from his native Westphalia to the present site of Delphos, then a dense forest. He secured a 92-acre tract of land from the government immediately east of the canal. A part of this land, which Father Bredeick had platted into lots and streets, now comprises the most valuable part of Delphos. He also set aside as a gift for the use of the Catholics of Section Ten (Delphos) a large tract, comprising many choice lots, as a site for the future

church, school and pastoral residence. Even now the church at Delphos is not equalled in size and location by any other in the Diocese of Cleveland.

Shortly after his arrival, Father Bredeick had a log house, 18 by 24 feet, erected at his own expense to serve as a chapel for his faithful colony. It soon proved too small for their accommodation and in 1846 was enlarged by a frame addition 27 by 37 feet. The addition

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REV. ALOYSIUS L. HOEFFEL

was intended only as a make-shift as Father Bredeick saw the necessity of at once providing larger and much better church facilities. Part of the addition was used as a school and served as such for some years.

In the latter part of 1846 Father Bredeick began the erection of a new church. It was built of hewn timbers and was in size 60 by 107 feet. Considering the poverty of the people (only one family was possessed of means), it was a grave undertaking for the good pastor, who gave most liberally out of his own purse to meet the cost of the church. (Father Bredeick brought the organ for the first church with him from Germany, also a piano.) But the parishoners gave either of their limited means or gave generously of their time in the way of labor, teaming, etc.

The cutting and hauling of the heavy timbers took almost two years, as the work had to be done when labor and teams could be had. After this, the framing of the timbers and their erection also took considerable time. But the result was a firmly built church of hewn logs, the interstices being filled with mortar and the whole exterior covered with shingles. Solidity rather than architectural beauty was its chief mark.

Before beginning the work on the church, a meeting of the 36 members of the Catholic Church was held and a contract was drawn up by which every Catholic inhabitant of Section Ten was bound to work 25 days each year on the new church, or contribute \$8 annually, until the completion of the building. The church was used for the first time on All Saints Day, 1853, when to the great joy of his faithful flock, by this time numbering 85 families, Father Bredeick offered up the Holy Sacrifice within the unfinished church.

There being no practical builder in Delphos to direct the work, it was entrusted to J. M.

Heitz, a cabinetmaker, who never before or after built a house or even a stable. In 1855 the exterior of the church was finished and painted white. Between 1856 and 1857 the main altar and most of the pews were made and placed in position.

Father Bredeick labored incessantly for the welfare of his parish, which had doubled in size within less than ten years, notwithstanding the ravages of the cholera, in 1854 and 1855. In April, 1858, Father Bredeick became seriously ill, after preaching his first sermon in his new pulpit.

Rev. F. Westerholt, of Defiance, was in July, 1858, appointed to assist him, but about six weeks later, on August 19, 1858, Father Bredeick passed to his eternal reward.

Father Westerholt was now placed in full charge. His first effort, which was directed toward finishing the interior, secured a pipe organ. In 1862 a spire 150 high was built, and two bells were placed in position. In January, 1868, Father Westerholt was called by Bishop Rappe to take charge of St. Peter's parish in Cleveland.

His successor is the present incumbent, Rev. Aloysius I. Hoeffel, who was appointed at the same time that Father Westerholt received his appointment to Cleveland.

REV. ALOYSIUS I. HOFFEL was born at Lutzelbourg, Lorraine, Diocese, of Nancy, France, May 14, 1832. In early life he enjoyed educational advantages. He made his preparatory and some of his more advanced studies at Courtrai, Belgium. Having spent five years in college, he devoted four years additional to studies in Fenetrange and at Pont-a-Mousson, France. On completion of his classical education, he emigrated to the United States in 1854 and immediately set about carrying out his resolve to become a priest.

In January, 1855, he was received into St.

Mary's Theological Seminary, Cleveland, where after a three and a half years course he was elevated to the priesthood by Bishop Rappe in June, 1858. In July, 1858, he was appointed to his first church and parish at Defiance, Ohio, where he labored in Defiance, Henry and Fulton counties 10 years.

He was appointed pastor of the Church of St. John the Evangelist at Delphos, on January 28, 1868. In 1870 he built a school devoted to the German department of his educational system. The Sisters' house he erected in 1872. He purchased a new organ in 1875, at a cost of \$2,800.

By this time the log church begun by Father Bredeick and completed by his successors had become not only antiquated but also much too small to accommodate the steadily increasing congregation.

When Father Hoeffel first proposed to his flock the subject of building another church adequate to their wants and in keeping with their means, he met with considerable opposition; quite a number of his opponents insisting on a division of the parish, with the idea of building a second church in the west part of the town.

After considerable discussion and delay, the first proposition prevailed—to build a brick church on the site of the old one large enough to accommodate all.

The building project took form in 1878, when plans for the present edifice were adopted. The execution of the design was committed in September, 1878, to Francis Heitz, a practical builder, son of John M. Heitz, who had built the first church 32 years before.

This church has a seating capacity of 1,800 and stands on a plat of ground 280 feet square. It is 193 feet long, 100 feet across the transept and 78 feet wide in the nave. In architecture it is Romanesque. The spire is 222 feet high.

The tower clock cost \$2,000. Including the labor and material that were given, the church cost fully \$100,000.

After the completion of the church, Father Hoeffel, in 1887, commenced the erection of an additional school building, which was completed in 1888 at a cost of \$12,000.

On January 3, 1889, St. John's parish was made a rectorate with Father Hoeffel as its first irremovable rector.

On September 12, 1894, the parish celebrated with great eclat the 50th anniversary of its foundation by Father Bredeick. On this occasion Father Hoeffel informed his congregation that he had donated three bells in memory of the three pastors of Delphos and paid for the recasting of the fourth bell in order to bring out its tone in harmony with the chime of five bells now belonging to the church. In 50 years a small log chapel had grown to this magnificent temple, while the membership of 36 persons had increased until upwards of 400 families make up the parish.

Ten years have now been added and Father Hoeffel, yet in vigorous manhood, looks after his flock with the same zealous care that he did in his early manhood.

While St. John's Church is situated in Allen County, its history belongs as much to Van Wert County, and for many years much the largest part of the congregation were residents of Van Wert County.

* * *

The first services of the Methodists at Delphos were held in the cabin of R. M. Petticord on the west side of the canal in 1846. There were five members present. Rev. John Graham, a young man then on the Van Wert circuit, was the minister officiating. A Sunday school was organized and John Miller was elected superintendent. Services were continued from time to time at the home of John

Miller, corner of Third and Main streets, and later at the cooper shop owned by Amos Metcalf and located on the rear part of a lot on Third street.

In 1848 E. N. Martin moved to Section Ten from Piqua. He was an ordained minister and with his means and liberality gave the organization quite a start. Steps were soon taken to build a church and until this was accomplished services were held in the upper room of a building erected by Mr. Martin as a woolen mill. In 1848 Rev. Harmont was sent as a preacher in charge of the circuit. In 1850 the foundation was laid for a church on a lot donated by Samuel Pettit, of Piqua, and in 1851 the building was completed. The present church structure was completed in 1880. The congregation is united and prosperous, owing largely to the untiring efforts of their talented young pastor, Rev. Ascham, who was given leave of absence in September, 1905, to pursue advanced studies at Harvard. Rev. J. B. Gotschall was appointed to fill his pulpit. The church has a present membership of about 400.

During the time that Rev. E. N. Martin was preaching for this and other churches in the absence of the regular pastors, he gave a contract to a Mr. High and another man to chop off the timber on a piece of land just west of Delphos in close proximity to the town. They were to cut the timber into lengths for rolling and burn the brush. The men completed their contract all except burning the brush. As the brush was green and it was in the rainy season, it was impossible to do that and they wanted Mr. Martin to pay them all but \$1. He wanted to retain \$10, which he did. The men told him they were going down the canal to work during the summer but would come back and finish up the job later in the season. It happened that there was a long dry

spell that fall. When High and his partner were on their way home in the western part of the county, they stopped off from the boat at Delphos on a Sunday and thinking of their unfinished job they strolled out that way and, seeing that the brush was still there, set fire to it. As there was considerable wind, the fire swept over the entire clearing in a few hours and caused quite a commotion and not a little fear for the town. But all ended all and the next morning High and his partner demanded their \$10. After inspecting the work and finding it complete and being an honorable man, Mr. Martin paid them. It had been one of Martin's preaching days and the congregation was very much disturbed by the conflagration and the preacher was indignant when he found it was his own clearing that was burning. This was not helped any when his neighbors commenced telling him that the young men said that Mr. Martin had paid them \$10 for setting the fire.

* * *

The Presbyterian Church at Delphos was organized in 1849 by Rev. Richard Graham. In the spring of 1852 Rev. Thomas Elcock took charge of the congregation as stated supply and continued his labors for three years. During this time the membership, which was very small in the beginning, increased to about 50. In the summer of 1855 Delphos was visited by cholera, which took to the grave many of the members of this church. Thus it was greatly weakened and for several years, down to the close of the Civil War in 1865, but little was accomplished toward the life and growth of the church. The good women all this time kept up their church socials and never lost faith in the ultimate erection of a church building, saving up their mites to that end. In 1865 Rev. Thomas Elcock, who had spent some years in a pastoral charge in Indiana, returned

to Van Wert and resumed his labors in Delphos, preaching in the latter place one-fourth of his time. The church began to increase in strength and the number of its membership, and commenced the building of a church edifice.

Samuel Forrer, the surveyor of the canal, had presented the congregation with a lot. This lot and the one donated by Father Bredeick were sold and the proceeds applied to the purchase of another lot and the erection of a church building.

It looked like it was a herculean task at the time for the few members. But by the perseverance and energy of a few of the men, aided by the efforts of the devoted women, the church building was carried to completion at a cost of about \$6,000. It was dedicated February 8, 1869.

Rev. W. M. Reed spent one year with this church. During the summer of 1870 Robert

Gilchrist, a licentiate of the Cincinnati Presbytery, commenced preaching in Delphos and in September of that year was taken under the care of the Lima Presbytery. In April, 1871, he received and accepted a call to become their pastor and at a later date was installed. He was a young man of great promise of usefulness, but death took him December 5, 1871, in the 26th year of his age. He was followed by Rev. Edward S. Scott who came from the Dayton Presbytery. In June, 1872, he received and accepted a call from the church and was ordained and installed. During Mr. Scott's pastorate the church grew to be self-sustaining. He resigned in 1882 and accepted a pastorate at Logansport, Indiana. In 1882 Rev. J. H. Sherrard took charge of the church. In 1883 he accepted a call and was regularly installed and enjoyed many evidences of success in his work. The present pastor is Rev. A. O. Raber.

CHAPTER XVI

UNION TOWNSHIP

Organization—Names of Voters in 1850—Some of the Original Land Entries—Pioneer Incidents—A Daring Deed—Lost in the Woods—A Bear Hunt.

The following action was taken by the commissioners at a session held December 1, 1845:

"A petition being presented signed by a number of citizens of Township 1 South, Range 2 East, praying for the organization of said township. Thereupon it is ordered that the aforesaid township be and is hereby struck off from Hoaglin and Tully townships, and is hereby constituted a civil township to be known by the name of Union. Ordered that the Auditor give notice to the qualified electors of said township to meet at the house of Samuel Nestric on the 20th day of this inst. for the purpose of electing officers for said township."

The name of Union was suggested by Nestric.

The officers elected at the first election, December 20, 1845, were: Samuel Nestric and Samuel Murphy, trustees; O. H. Harvey, clerk; Robert Pollock, justice of the peace; John Murphy, constable; and William Harvey, assessor.

NAMES OF VOTERS IN 1850.

At an election held in Union township on October 8, 1850, there were 13 qualified electors, whose names follow:

Samuel Murphy, Samuel Nestric, John Handley, William Murphy, James Murphy, Mathew Black, Jacob High, John Murphy, Jr., James Hatter, Michael Beck, David Sands, Henry Reece and John Murphy.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
1	Mathew Black	40	1842
1	Peter Swoveland	80	1844
1	John Stock	160	1849
1	John Brown	80	1849
1	Daniel Loudonback	40	1851
1	G. A. Briggs	80	1851
1	George Faulk	40	1851
1	William McMullen	80	1851
1	John Ellis	40	1851
2	Samuel Marsh	241	1850
2	John McIlvain	160	1850
2	Franklin Halliday	160	1850
2	William H. Donald	80	1851
3	Franklin Halliday	159	1851
3	William Huff	159	1851
3	Samuel Ferguson	320	1851
4	Samuel Lisle	155	1851
4	Jonathan Hopper	77	1851
4	Jack Ward	80	1851
4	John Bales	40	1851
4	Abraham Lucas	40	1851
5	Benjamin B. Winans	155	1851
5	William Douglas	165	1851
5	Thomas Hall	80	1851
5	Nancy Dillon	40	1851
5	William Moore	40	1851
6	Mathew Black	40	1842

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.	SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
6	Peter Densel	160	1852	15	Adam Beamer	160	1848
6	Andrew L. Grimes	91	1853	15	Adam Myers	160	1848
6	James Weldon	91	1853	15	James Coe	80	1849
6	William Summerville	40	1853	15	Mathew Black	160	1851
7	James Kirkendale	182	1839	15	Peter Arnd	40	1851
7	Alexander Caldwell	91	1839	16	John M. Keighner	160	1854
7	John Schiffale	80	1839	16	Joseph Chambers	80	1854
7	David Proudfit	80	1839	16	Daniel High	80	1854
7	John McPherson	80	1851	16	Henry Reece	160	1854
7	John C. Miller	45	1851	16	Joseph Livensparger	80	1854
7	John Miller	45	1851	16	Michael Beck	80	1854
7	George Foulk	80	1852	17	Henry Jordan	80	1837
8	Henry S. Beeson	80	1839	17	Peter Hartzill	80	1837
8	Dewalt Ritter	80	1839	17	Oliver Dial	160	1850
8	George Wolf	80	1839	17	James Hutchins	160	1851
8	Samuel Myers	160	1851	17	Daniel Elwell	160	1851
8	John C. Smith	80	1851	18	William Dial	40	1850
8	Henry Foulk	80	1851	18	Lewis Young	40	1850
8	William E. Gray	80	1852	18	Jesse George	80	1851
9	Robert McConnell	80	1851	18	Robert Hawkins	182	1851
9	William McMullen	80	1851	18	Robert Work	80	1851
9	William McFarland	160	1851	18	Mary Lang	80	1851
9	William Taylor	160	1851	19	Valentine G. Hash	91	1847
9	David Baker	160	1851	19	David Repp	40	1847
10	John C. Rundall	40	1851	19	Joseph Moore	160	1851
10	Charles Olevine	80	1851	19	Reuben Frisbie	262	1851
10	James Coe	80	1851	19	V. D. Dille	91	1852
10	John Wersner	40	1851	19	R. H. Gibson	40	1851
10	John Ling	40	1851	20	Jacob Myers	80	1849
10	Ebenezer Stibben	40	1851	20	George West	40	1851
10	Henry Wallick	40	1851	20	Miles Cowen	40	1851
10	John Garner	40	1851	20	Andrew Smith	80	1851
10	Abra Urang	40	1851	20	Samuel Philbie	80	1851
10	Thomas B. Tiltan	160	1852	20	Reuben Frisbie	80	1851
10	John Hough	40	1853	20	Conrad Shaw	80	1851
11	Daniel H. Haight	160	1851	20	Miles Conrad	40	1851
11	Jesse Moore	160	1851	20	Abner Lyman	40	1852
11	Ann Geslick	160	1851	20	James Huston	80	1852
11	William Welch	160	1851	21	Michael Beck	120	1842
12	Isaac Hagerman	180	1840	21	Jacob Myers	80	1849
12	Henry Pomeroy	80	1841	21	John Neal	80	1849
12	Henry Keifer	80	1844	21	M. M. Rittenhouse	160	1849
12	Andrew L. Grimes	160	1849	21	Mathew Miller	40	1851
12	Eli Taylor	80	1850	21	R. H. Gibson	180	1854
12	James Larmer	160	1851	22	James McDermit	160	1842
13	Joseph Hoover	80	1839	22	John Neal	80	1842
13	James Cameron	160	1839	22	William Neal	80	1843
13	Christopher Reece	240	1841	22	John Baker	160	1847
13	George W. Handley	160	1848	22	James B. McDermit	80	1848
14	William Harvey	80	1841	22	James Donaldson	80	1841
14	Joseph Kline	80	1850	23	Samuel Nestric	80	1841
14	Sanford Smith	160	1851	23	William Harvey	40	1841
15	Thomas Cantwell	40	1846	23	John Murphy	160	1842

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
23	John Murphy	40	1844
23	William Collins	40	1848
23	Mark M. McDermit	160	1848
23	Fred Boyer	80	1851
23	Benjamin Beach	40	1851
24	Jacob Speiler	80	1839
24	John & Isaac Grubb	160	1839
24	Joseph Hoover	80	1839
24	Charles Dally	80	1839
24	Charles Hagan	80	1839
24	Aaron Heaglin	80	1841
24	Isaac Connell	40	1841
24	Christopher Reece	40	1841
25	John Penn	120	1838
25	William Young	80	1839
25	Jacob B. Haller	40	1839
25	Adam Lutz	80	1839
25	John & Catherine Ebert	80	1839
25	John A. Welch	80	1839
25	Jacob High	80	1841
25	Alfred Wright	80	1841
26	John Swanger	120	1839
26	Alex. Ramsey	80	1839
26	William Young	80	1839
26	Enoch M. Heaglin	40	1839
26	Michael Frantz	160	1839
26	George Elliott	80	1839
26	Jonathan Bales	40	1851
26	Jacob Brand	40	1851
27	H. Kean	160	1837
27	John Swanger	40	1839
27	A. Hayden	160	1839
27	Stephen Barr	160	1843
27	John McDermit	80	1851
27	John Beeler	40	1851
28	Henry Daniels	160	1849
28	John Neal	80	1849
28	Reuben P. Mann	80	1851
28	John F. Dodds	160	1851
28	John Moore	160	1851
29	John F. Dodds	640	1851
30	John High	91	1839
30	Thomas A. Anderson	136	1839
30	John Sands	45	1840
30	Jacob Shaffer	45	1840
30	David Repp	40	1842
30	Mathew Hughes	160	1851
30	James Anderson	40	1851
30	Reuben Frisbie	45	1851
30	John Anderson	40	1851
31	John Fuller	160	1836
31	Jonathan Smith	90	1839
31	Mary Ramsey	90	1839

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
31	Thomas Kane	90	1836
31	Isaac Stuck	80	1840
31	William Richard	125	1842
31	Thomas High	45	1851
32	Emanuel Swineford	80	1840
32	Richard Williams	40	1842
32	Lemuel Lynch	160	1851
32	Jacob Mellon	160	1851
32	John Gilkinson	40	1851
32	George Marsh	180	1851
33	Jacob Haller	160	1839
33	Elizabeth Schraeder	120	1839
33	John Burgholder	160	1839
33	George Sanderson	160	1851
34	John Burgholder	320	1839
34	Elias Evers	160	1849
35	Samuel A. Major	320	1839
35	Erastus Porter	160	1839
35	John M. Franklin	160	1849
36	William Stripe	80	1836
36	Jacob Stripe Sr.	160	1838
36	Henry Keiser	40	1838
36	Israel Keiser	80	1838
36	Jacob Haller	80	1839
36	William Peter	80	1839
36	George Helfest	40	1839
36	Henry Reiling	40	1839
36	Isaac Morse	40	1851

PIONEER INCIDENTS.

Hercules Kain was the first resident of Union township. He built the first log house, about 1837 or 1838. One very cold morning he was found sitting on a log frozen to death. The previous day, which was a rainy one, he had started home from the settlement. Leaving the Ridge road about where the Dix Church now is, he lost his way when darkness overtook him.

John A. Welch settled in section 25, Union township, about 1842. A short time afterward, a tree that he was cutting down fell on him and injured his back severely. After lingering for several months, he died.

Jacob Speiler, a German, was unfortunate and felled trees on two horses, all he had. He did not have money enough to buy others.

James G. Gilliland gave him a horse that was in the habit of throwing fences, but otherwise was a very good horse and very powerful. This animal did all his work for a good many years until he was able to buy another team. There was never anyone that appreciated a favor more than Mr. Speiler and his wife, and they wanted to work to pay for the horse, but Mr. Gilliland would never take any pay.

A DARING DEED.

At an early day two boys, Norman Fish and William Evans, were out hunting. Coming to a hollow log in what was called the Frisbie deadening (now know as the McMillen farm), they heard something in it and young Fish concluded he would crawl in and investigate. Taking his gun with him, he had gone some distance when he saw two bright eyes. He fired and then went forward and caught hold of some animal's foot and pulled it out, only to find it a full grown wolf. He went in again with the same result and the same the third time, bringing out a wolf each time—one black and two grays. This proved a good day's work for the boys—\$4 for each scalp besides the pelt.

LOST IN THE WOODS.

In the early days of the settlement of Union township, a Mrs. Holtrey and her little son Barney went in the evening to drive up the cows. Hearing the bell, she soon found her cows and started them in the direction of home. Then thinking she heard their horse bell, she told her son to drive the cows home and she would get the horses as they would want to work them the next day. Accordingly she started in the direction from which she thought she heard the sound of the bell, but after walk-

ing for some time she lost its sound and concluded she would start for home. She soon became bewildered and night coming on and it being cold added much to her discomfort. Then it began to rain, which soon turned to snow. She kept moving, for she knew that it was necessary for her to keep walking to keep from perishing.

The family became alarmed and collected the few settlers around them with dinner horns and cow bells. They formed in two companies—one to go northeast, and the other northwest, making all the noise they could with bells, horns and guns. After an all-night hunt, they returned to the saddened home. After eating breakfast, they started out again and traveled all day, but returned with no tidings of the lost woman. The company, weary and discouraged, concluded that she had either perished or wandered to some other settlement. The hunt was kept up, however, and a party taking a different direction finally found her. She said she had gone into a hollow tree, said her prayers and concluded to die there, but hearing some person "holler" she came out of the tree and started in the direction of the sound. She had been lost six days and seven nights.

A BEAR HUNT.

In the fall of 1858 bears were very plenty in Union and Tully townships, two or three being killed a day. A young man by the name of Fred Coffin was extremely anxious to go bear hunting. He finally prevailed upon James Webster to go with him. They started out in the morning and about 10 o'clock, when northwest of C. P. Richey's place, they sat down on a log to rest. While sitting there a large black bear stopped within about a hundred feet of where they were sitting. Webster snapped his gun twice and then told Coffin to shoot.

Webster said that he noticed that Coffin's gun was shaking when he shot. The bear shook his head and showed its teeth and then walked off into the woods. Webster after getting another cap on his gun followed the bear, trying to come up with it, thinking that Coffin would follow. After going some distance and not

seeing the bear and Coffin not coming up, he fired his gun off to let Coffin know his whereabouts, but not hearing any reply he continued to hunt until night. When he returned to town, he learned that Coffin had returned to town before noon, and no inducement could prevail on him to go bear hunting again.

CHAPTER XVII

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Organization—First Settlers and First Events—Names of Voters in 1859—Some of the Original Land Entries—Pioneer Incidents—The Anderson Murder—Sketches of Some of the Pioneers.

Jackson township was organized by the Board of County Commissioners on the 7th of March, 1855, and an election was ordered to be held at the schoolhouse on the first Monday in April, 1855. The election was held on the day appointed by the commissioners, and the following officers were elected: Israel P. Adams, Samuel Morris and George Longwell, trustees; George W. Holden, clerk; John H. Semer, treasurer.

FIRST SETTLERS AND FIRST EVENTS.

The first white settler in the township was George W. Payne, who came from Lorain County in 1851. Shortly afterward, in the same year, Jacob Thatcher, George Longwell and John Hatherell, an Englishman, moved into the township. Then came John H. Semer, in May, 1852, and Israel P. Adams in the fall of that year. Samuel Morris, George W. Holden and Alfred Neese came in 1853. George W. Payne erected the first house in the township—a frame building, the lumber for which was hauled from the canal. Jacob Thatcher built the first log house. Jacob Thatcher, Jr., was the first white child born in

the township. W. H. Deniston taught the first school in the township.

NAMES OF VOTERS IN 1859.

According to the poll book of an election held in Jackson township on the 1st of October, 1859, there were eight voters, as follows: Josiah Keeler, Israel P. Adams, George W. Holden, George W. Payne, R. A. Law, George Longwell, John Hatherell and Samuel Morris.

SOME OF THE ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES.

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
1	Lynn Starling	165	1836
1	William Bebb	480	1839
4	M. H. Slygh	160	1851
4	George W. Payne	80	1851
4	Gordon Slygh	124	1851
4	Robert Stewart	41	1851
4	Dwight Gibbs	164	1853
6	William Bebb	638	1850
7	Edward Bebb, Jr.	654	1850
8	Levi Wallace	160	1849
8	John W. Snider	320	1849
8	James Crawford	160	1849
9	Sarah J. Fox	80	1850
9	John & Jacob Thatcher	80	1851
9	Jane Thatcher	40	1854
9	Jonathau Preston	80	1855

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
9	William F. Preston	80	1855
9	John H. Maltz	160	1857
9	George W. Holden	40	1857
9	Eli Ridenour	80	1857
12	Edward Bebb	640	1839
13	David Tolan	80	1839
13	Fred Ehernman	40	1851
13	Samuel Richards	80	1851
13	William Shofe	160	1851
13	John Conrad	80	
13	George Ridenour	40	
17	Lynn Starling	160	1836
17	William Bebb	160	1839
17	John Bates	320	1839
18	William Bebb	494	1839
18	Lynn Starling	80	1842
18	John Conrad	86	1854
19	Lynn Starling	327	1836
19	Henry W. Margroff	43	1838
19	William Bebb	80	1838
19	Thomas G. Jones	174	1839
19	Charles W. Parris	43	1851
20	Hardesty Walker	320	1839
20	Theo. Aldevader	160	1849
20	Henry Springer	160	1849
21	Reuben Hine	40	1853
21	Israel P. Adams	120	1853
21	George W. Woods	40	1853
21	Henry Springer	120	1855
24	John G. Long	160	1849
24	Philip Cating	120	1851
24	John Hatherell	40	1851
24	Luther Giddings	160	1851
24	Hugh M. Wallace	80	1851
24	Samuel Poland	40	1851
24	May Shaw	40	1852
28	John Richards	160	1851
28	Samuel Morris	160	1851
28	John H. Semer	120	1852
28	E. Boyer	40	1852
28	Charles Long	80	1852
28	Julius Wale	80	1851
29	William Palmer	160	1842
29	John P. Profit	160	1842
29	George Denig	160	1849
29	Henry Springer	160	1849
30	Lynn Starling	160	1836
30	Henry Baker	160	1836
30	Henry W. Margroff	43	1838
30	William Bebb	87	1838
30	John F. Jones	175	1838
30	Evan B. Jones	43	1838
31	Lynn Starling	160	1836

SEC.	NAME.	ACRES.	YEAR.
31	Edward Bebb	342	1838
31	David Lloyd	80	1839
31	Thomas R. Stiles	80	1842
32	Evan Evans	160	1839
32	John Calhoun	160	1842
32	George Emerling	160	1849
32	Allen Haverfield	160	1849
33	Thomas Bone	80	1852
33	Julius C. Curtis	80	1852
33	Jacob Lutz	80	1852
33	W. F. Westerfield	40	1854
33	William Thornell	80	1854
33	Simon Fair	40	1854
33	David Friezner	40	1854
33	Horace Sessions	80	1855

PIONEER INCIDENTS.

At an early day two boys, sons of John H. Semer, aged 15 and 10 years, went out hunting in the winter, when there was a deep snow. They became lost in the woods and wandered around until dark when they crawled into a hollow tree, remaining there until the moon came up so that they would know the direction home. When they started for home, they were so badly frozen that they could not travel; so they crawled into a hollow log where they were found the next day. Their feet were so badly frozen that they had to be amputated above the ankles. The neighbors had followed the boys' tracks in the snow all night with torches but did not come up with them until the next day. The oldest boy had taken off his coat to wrap around his little brother.

In 1850 James G. Gilliland and Davis Johnson were elected appraisers and divided the county between them, Johnson taking the west half and Gilliland the east half.

When Gilliland was in Jackson township he came across a den of wolves. He had nothing with him but an Indian tomahawk, with which he killed five of the young wolves, while two made their escape. They could run as fast as he could but were clumsy and if they ran

against a bush of sapling would fall over. The old wolf kept out of sight but would set up a howl every little while. That made a good day's wages, as the scalps were worth \$4 apiece. He started for Enoch M. Hoaglin's place to stay over that night as he had been wading in water all day. While he was going through the woods he heard something climbing a tree and as it was on his way he kept on, but when he was within 15 or 20 feet of the tree there was an old she bear backed up against it, which gave a hoarse growl as much as to say "Halt!" She had heard him coming and was making the cubs climb out of danger. Mr. Gilliland concluded that she had the first claim and he went around. This was the first day he had gone without either his gun or dog and thereafter he took both.

John Semer, Jr., says there were no roads in the township at that time. "We had no horses. My brother and I had trained our oxen so we could ride them. We would take a sack of corn each on the back of our oxen and go to Delphos to mill."

At an early date there was a fall election. As all the votes were in before noon the trustees thought it was not necessary to keep the polls open any longer. They made up their returns and started for Van Wert. Samuel Morris, the trustee, had the returns with him. Morris kept out of the way for about an hour after closing time, when he walked into the Court House with the returns. Semer pretended to be surprised and said, "How did you get here so soon." He replied "I had a good horse." The facts were that they had walked in together.

THE ANDERSON MURDER.

In May, 1877, there was a family by the name of Anasser living in Jackson township

and a young man by the name of Anderson had been staying with them and he had caused considerable friction and Mrs. Anasser had left home. Anasser wanted Anderson to leave and trouble ensued. Anderson was killed and buried in the log stable and then the stable was burned. The friends and neighbors became suspicious and a party came over from Elida, where Anderson's friends lived, and accused Anasser of the crime. He acknowledged it and told where the body would be found. Anderson's friends felt like resorting to lynch law but one of the neighbors got Anasser in his buggy and drove away before the others knew what was being done and lodged him in jail. Anasser was tried and claimed self-defense; as there were no witnesses and Anderson had insisted on staying there after he had been forbidden the house, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

SKETCHES OF SOME OF THE PIONEERS.

Isarel P. Adams came to Jackson township in 1853, before its organization. There were then only three white families living in the township, those of Payne, Thatcher and Semer. He cleared a small piece of ground and built himself a cabin without any help. The nearest road was four miles away. The nearest place of worship was eight miles distance. With the help of his wife and one horse he rolled the logs and cleared 40 acres of land. Mr. Adams served continuously with the exception of one year as township treasurer for 18 years.

George Longwell moved to Jackson township in 1851 and located in the woods with his wife and children. His nearest neighbor was two miles distant. After he had built his cabin and cleared a few acres of land, he found he was the victim of a mistake and had located

on another man's land. He then lost a year's labor and was compelled to commence anew again. There is a very fine sulphur spring near his house that at an early day was frequently visited for the benefit to be derived from its healing waters.

Israel Downing lived in Ridge township, where he first located, until the breaking out of the war in 1861, when he volunteered and left his family there. Upon his return at the close of the war, he moved to Jackson township.

CHAPTER XVIII

THE CITY OF VAN WERT

The Town Platted—Deed of Peter Aughenbaugh & Company to Van Wert County—First and Second Sales of Lots—Building of the Gaol—Early Settlers—The First Store-Keepers—Some Recollections of the Early Time—Early Taverns—First Sawmills and Tanneries—Other Early Industries—First Schools and Schoolhouses—Some Pioneer Incidents and Stories—Some Notorious Characters—The Town Incorporated—Mayors—The Fire Department—Newspapers—State Factories—The Anderson Piano Company—The Union Mills—Warehouses and Elevators—Merchants—Banks—Light, Power and Telephone Companies—Natural Gas and Oil—The Brumback Library—The Gleason Family.

A plat of a part of Van Wert was made and filed in Mercer County, May 26, 1835, in which 78 lots were platted between Water street and Jackson street, and between Cherry street and Jefferson street. On May 23, 1837, an additional plat was completed, and filed on the 25th day of May, 1837, in Mercer county; it is what is known as the "Original Plat of Van Wert" and comprised 246 lots. This is the plat that dedicated to the public the commons, out of which our beautiful parks have been made. The original proprietors little knew what a gift they were making to posterity. No greater monument could be erected to their memory. As there are three distinct parks, the author would suggest that they be named for the three donors and a tablet placed in each park with the name of the donors on each.

The contract by which the county seat was

located at Van Wert was completed by Aughenbaugh, Riley and Marsh deeding to the commissioners of Van Wert County all the lots of odd numbers from No. 1 to No. 77, except lot No. 3, and other considerations which will appear in the following deed.

DEED OF PETER AUGHENBAUGH & COMPANY TO VAN WERT COUNTY.

Know all men that I, James Watson Riley, for and on my own account and as agent and attorney in fact for Peter Aughenbaugh and Elizabeth his wife, and George Marsh and Caroline, his wife, as proprietors of the town of Van Wert in the County of Van Wert and State of Ohio, under the name and firm of Peter Aughenbaugh & Co., in consideration of a contract heretofore made between said Peter Aughenbaugh & Co. and Louis Dille, James Fergus and Justin Hamilton, commissioners appointed by joint resolution of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio to locate the seat of Justice for the County of Van Wert, whereby the following described real estate was given as a

donation to the County of Van Wert upon condition that the seat of justice for said County should be fixed at the town of Van Wert, which condition was complied with by said commissioners, and accepted by the County through her constituted authorities, and by authority of regularly executed powers of attorney from said Peter and Elizabeth Aughenbaugh and George and Caroline Marsh duly recorded upon pages "three hundred and fifty-six (356) and three hundred and fifty-seven (357) and four hundred and ninety (490) of Book E, Mercer County, Ohio, Records" do by these presents release, convey and confirm unto Henry Reichard, William Purdy and Joseph Johnson as commissioners of the County of Van Wert in the State of Ohio, for the time being, and their successors in office, for the use of the County forever, all the lots of odd numbers in the original plat of said town of Van Wert from number one to number seventy-seven, inclusive, saving and excepting number three which is set apart as a school lot and so recorded, and all of the east half of the northwest quarter and the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section number thirteen in township number two, south of range number two east, not laid out in lots, streets or alleys or appropriated as commons on the original Plat. supposed to be about one hundred acres, but be the same more or less according to legitimate subdivision of the section, to have and to hold the same unto the said commissioners and their successors for the use of the county of Van Wert forever. Hereby covenanting that the title hereby conveyed is clear, free and unincumbered, and that the said party of the first part will warrant and defend the same against all persons claiming or to claim by, from or under them, their heirs or assigns. In witness whereof the said James Watson Riley for and on his own account and as agent and attorney in fact, as aforesaid, together with Susan Q. Riley, the wife of the said James Watson Riley, who releases her right of dower in said premises, have hereunto set their hands and seals at St. Marys, the twelfth day of April, A. D. Eighteen hundred and thirty-eight.

JAMES WATSON RILEY, (Seal)

SUSAN Q. RILEY, (Seal)

PETER AUGHENBAUGH, (Seal)

ELIZABETH AUGHENBAUGH, (Seal)

GEORGE MARSH, (Seal)

CAROLINE MARSH, (Seal)

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in the presence of

B. F. SCHROEDER.

CALEB MAJOR.

By JAMES WATSON RILEY, Attorney-in-fact.

THE STATE OF OHIO,

MERCER COUNTY—SS:

On the 12th day of April, A. D., Eighteen hun-

dred and thirty-eight, came James Watson Riley before me, the undersigned, and acknowledged the signing and sealing of the above deed on his own account and as attorney for the purpose therein specified, and also Susan Q. Riley, the wife of said James Watson Riley, who upon a separate examination declared that she signed the same voluntarily, knowing the contents thereof and was still satisfied therewith. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

CALEB MAJOR, J. P. (Seal)

VAN WERT COUNTY, OHIO, RECORDER'S OFFICE,

March 9th, 1839.

This deed was received and recorded the same day.

Attest: CHARLES MOUNT,

Recorder.

FIRST SALE OF LOTS.

The following is an account of the lots sold by the commissioners at the town of Van Wert, May 22, 1838: Horace L. Holcomb, Warren County, Ohio—lots 1, 77, 49, 31, 57, 11, 17, 61, 69 and 71; Jacob Stripe, Fairfield County, Ohio—lots 5 and 7; John P. Henderson, Perry County, Ohio—lot 37; William Stripe, Fairfield County, Ohio—lots 35 and 9; John McColly, Jr., Springfield, Clark County, Ohio—lot 41; John A. Colerick, Bucyrus, Crawford County, Ohio—lot 43; Adam Nimon, Bucyrus, Crawford County, Ohio—lot 51; Henry Conover, Carrollton, Montgomery County, Ohio—lot 47; Samuel Buckman, per J. W. Riley, Mercer, Mercer County, Ohio—lot 53; James A. Hanson, Lima, Allen County, Ohio—lot 29; James W. Riley, St. Marys, Mercer County, Ohio—lots 55, 59 and 63; Samuel M. Clark, Allen County, Ohio—lot 25; Daniel Cook, Van Wert County, Ohio—lot 21; James W. Henderson, Perry County, Ohio—lot 23; William Parent, Van Wert County, Ohio—lots 15 and 73; Joseph Gleason Van Wert County, Ohio—lots 13 and 19; William B. Hedges, Shanesville, Mercer County, Ohio—George Marsh, Athens, Athens County, Ohio—lots 65 and 67.

It was told for many years afterwards that on the plats, by which they sold the lots they

had a boat landing marked near where the Penn lots are. Whether that is true or not, the writer cannot say, as he never saw one of the maps. But the creek was a very large stream at certain seasons of the year. The lot where Dunathan & Hard's implement store is located was under water most of the year. In 1854 James G. Gilliland, Thomas Gilliland, Adam Gilliland, Hugh Gilliland, Thomas Gilliland, Jr., and the writer, with a number of others, spent a day hauling earth from Market street to fill it up. There were two channels where the creek crossed Main street—the smaller one about 100 feet west of the Central Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Building and the larger or main channel where Edwards' grocery now stands.

SECOND SALE OF LOTS.

The second sale of lots by the commissioners took place May 22, 1839, when the following lots were sold: To William Layton, of Van Wert County, lot 290; Smith Hill, Van Wert County, lot 281; Joseph Gleason, Van Wert County, lots 316, 305, 306, 299 and 300; William Hill, Allen County, lots 253, 287, 271, 272, 295, 315, 284, and 285; Elihu Ireland, Allen County, lots 275, 254, and 255; John Heath, Allen County, lots 247, 248, 296, 39 and 45; George Null, Allen County, lots 273 and 274; Smith Cremean, Allen County, lots 282, 283, 266 and 267; Asa Cook, Van Wert County, lots 303, 304 and 280; James G. Gilliland, Van Wert County, lots 307, 308, 297 and 298; Michael Keefer, Van Wert County, lots 309 and 292; P. Jacob Hines, Van Wert County, lot 310; Peter Wills, Van Wert County, lots 311 and 294; W. H. Keilholtz, Van Wert County, lot 312; William Davis, Van Wert County, lot 313; Adam Gilliland, Van Wert County, lots 314 and 291; Edward R.

Wells, Van Wert County, lots 288 and 33; S. M. Clark, Van Wert County, lots 286, 278, 279 and 270; Evan B. Jones, Van Wert County, lots 256 and 257; Isaac Daugherty, Van Wert County, lot 258; Cyrenius Elliott, Van Wert County, lots 259 and 260; O. C. Rude, St. Marys, Mercer County, lots 293 and 252; Andrew Todd, Van Wert County, lots 276 and 277; Samuel Buckman, Mercer, Mercer County, lots 268 and 269; John S. Houston, St. Marys, Mercer County, lots 261, 262, 263 and 264; William Parent, Van Wert County, lot 265; Emanuel Morehead, Van Wert County, lots 250 and 251.

BUILDING OF THE GAOL.

On July 14, 1838, a contract was let to Jesse King, of Mercer County, to build a gaol (jail) at Van Wert for the sum of \$483. The building was of hewed logs, hewed on all four sides and notched down so that they fit close together. The floor was of logs hewed on three sides and fitted close together. The ceiling was formed of linn logs hewed about 10 inches square and placed close together. The contract called for the completion of the gaol by the 1st day of November, 1838. On October 25, 1838, the commissioners accepted the gaol with a deduction of \$45.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Among the early settlers were John F. Dodds, William Parent, Daniel Cook, Joseph Gleason, Jacob Stripe, William Stripe, Samuel M. Clark, Adam Nimon, John F. Gabby, P. Jacob Hines, Isaac Daugherty, E. R. Wells, Cyrenius Elliott, Andrew Todd and Abraham Zimmerman. Thomas R. Mott was the first postmaster.

John F. Dodds, one of the first settlers in

the town of Van Wert, came here in 1837 and lived in the first house erected in the town for a residence. His wife was a daughter of John McColly, of Springfield, Ohio. He was appointed county auditor December 4, 1837, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Daniel D. Cross. On May 22, 1838, he was appointed a commissioner to locate a State road to commence at Greenville, Darke County; to run from there through Montezuma, Celina, and Mercer, in Mercer County; thence to Van Wert; thence to Paulding, Paulding County, and from there to New Rochester on the Maumee River.

THE FIRST STORE-KEEPERS.

There has been some question as to who started the first general store in Van Wert. According to the records, the commissioners on December 2, 1838, ordered the treasurer to collect three per cent. on the capital of Samuel M. Clark, employed in merchandising in Van Wert. On May 22, 1838, at the first sale of lots, Clark was registered as a resident of Allen County, and Adam Nimon, who was the second to start a store was a resident of Bucyrus, Crawford County. Samuel M. Clark also started the first blacksmith shop in Van Wert, in 1839. At one time he kept a tavern, which was located on the lot on which are now the Kauke buildings.

Samuel M. Clark built a double log house with a space between called an entry, also with a porch alongside, and a year or two later he built a two-story, hewed-log house, 20 by 30 feet. Both of these were built on the lot on the northeast corner of Main and Washington streets. He also built a one-story frame house, 16 by 24 feet, in which he kept his stock of dry goods. Asa Hipshire, father of Henry Hipshire, of Ridge township, cut and hewed the

timber (all of it basswood) and rove the clapboards, shaving them with a drawing knife—these were for the weather-boarding and also for the roof.

Adam Nimon and Thomas R. Mott built a log house on the lot where the J. W. Penn building now stands and started a general store. They were succeeded in 1842 by Walter Buckingham, who brought a stock of dry goods, groceries and hardware from Mansfield. Buckingham also built a frame store-room on the alley west of the Hotel Marsh, moved his goods into it and occupied it until his death. It then passed into the hands of George S. Crafts.

Robert and James G. Gilliland built a two-story log house on the lot east of the Humphreys & Hughes building and put in a stock of dry goods and groceries in 1840.

These stores only carried small stocks and were frequently out of the most active selling goods. This was most noticeable when the stock of tobacco would run short. Clark would send to Piqua for his goods; while Nimon and Buckingham would send to Mansfield. But if the stock of tobacco ran out, then inquiry was made as to who had purchased liberally lately, and a bee line was made for the lucky man. If he had a twist of "dog leg" or a plug of "cavendish", it was always divided.

In 1838 Samuel M. Clark built a blacksmith shop on the North end of his lot where Kauke's wareroom now is, and employed a young man by the name of John Kesler to run it. Kesler lived to a good old age and died only a few years ago, respected by all that knew him.

James and William A. Clark started the first shoe store in a log building on the south side of Main street opposite the Court House. William A. Clark sold out to his brother in about three months, as the profits were not

large enough to divide. The Clark shoe store never changed hands from its first organization and is today (1906) the leading retail shoe store in northwestern Ohio. As his family grew up, Mr. Clark took his sons in with him.

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF THE EARLY TIME.

BY WILLIAM A. CLARK.

In the earliest period of the settlement, there was always more or less difficulty in getting flour and meal for bread. On one occasion my brother, John W. Clark, and myself went to Lewis Culver's horse-mill in York township, each with a sack of corn on his horse. It was the custom for each one having grain to be ground to hitch in his horse as soon as the grist was in the hopper and so grind it himself. At another time I went to a hand-mill owned by Robert Miller, the grandfather of James Miller, the telephone man. I had either a peck or a half bushel of corn this time. The hand-mill was an institution in its day. Its burrs, which were made of hard rocks termed "niggerheads," were about 16 inches in diameter and 8 inches thick, dressed the same as other mill burrs of a few years ago. The upper one had a hole through the center where the corn was fed in. There was another hole in the top of this burr near the outer rim, an inch deep and perhaps two inches in diameter, in which was fitted loosely a pole two or three inches thick and long enough to reach up to some beam or solid support overhead. As the overhead attachment of the pole was directly over the center of the burrs and the lower one was at the outer rim of the burrs, a leverage was secured by which to run the burrs. A person would take hold of this upright with one hand and start the burrs in motion then with the other hand he would

throw in a few grains of corn at a time. This mill that I have described was on a farm two miles west of Van Wert, now known as the Hook farm. This was about 1840.

The Indians that came to our place were very nice people if sober, but were very ugly when under the influence of whisky. They used to come to our tavern (as hotels were then called) and order their meals, which were always furnished. Two of them, halfbreeds, George and Peter Clark, who were frequently with us, were cousins of father's. The latter Peter Clark, who was a fur buyer, lived at our house for some time. Their father had been stolen by the Indians when a small boy, had been raised by them and had married among them. Half John, John Lake, Spike Ruck and Snake Head were among our old acquaintances.

Town Creek was a very large stream most of the year. The east bank was Jefferson street, with a corduroy bridge from one side to the other, except two places where there were spans of bridges—one a little west of the Central Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Building, and the longer one about where Edwards' grocery is. The corduroy bridge, made of logs laid side by side and covered with earth was frequently covered with water for days.

About 1840 or 1842 Smith Hill organized a class of the members of the Methodist Church. There were six, namely: Samuel M. Clark and wife, Grandmother Daugherty (mother of Mrs. Clark and of Isaac Daugherty), F. Jacob Hines and Mr. and Mrs. Smith Hill.

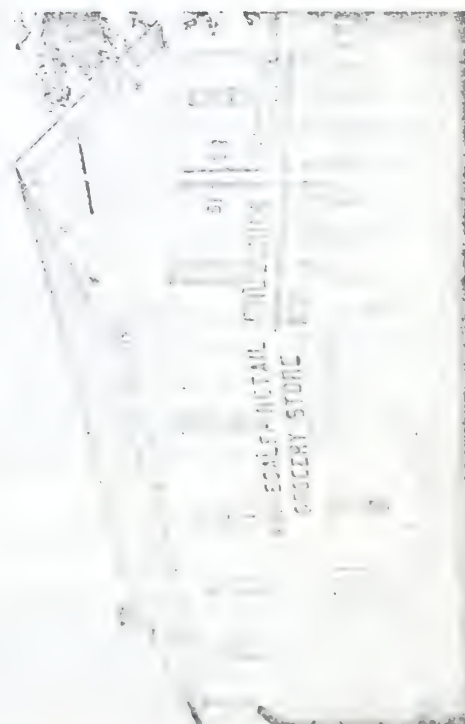
At that time we did not have regular preaching. Oliver Stacy, William Priddy, John Summersett, John Hill, Thomas W. Bowdell, and W. H. Ramsey, of Ridge township, and Jesse Tenthoff, of York township, preached occasionally. They were called ex-



CITY HALL, VAN WERT



PUMPING STATION, VAN WERT



THE THIRD COURT HOUSE, VAN WERT

Subsequently Used as a Store by Humphreys & Hughes; Since Demolished



COUNTY JAIL, VAN WERT

horters. They went from house to house and preached without pay. These are some of the recollections of the happenings when I was a boy in Van Wert.

EARLY TAVERNS.

When Daniel Cook came to Van Wert, he moved into what was known as the Court House, a two-room building that was erected by William Priddy on the lots where Wisman's grocery is located. He started a tavern and later built a hewed-log house 18 by 24 feet, one and a half stories high. It stood where Hall's dry goods store now stands. This was named the "Eagle Tavern." Thus it flourished for a number of years and passed in turn under the management of Daniel Cook, James Q. Graves, Thomas R. Mott and Joseph Gleason. Under Mr. Gleason's management it was changed to the "American House." The proprietors after Mr. Gleason were John W. Conn, Hiram Campbell, S. Stake, Joseph Slater, O. W. Rose, N. D. McMullen, Samuel Holmes, Samuel Saltzgaber, Creighton McCoy, Ezekiel Cole, William Underhill, J. Close, John M. Davis and Henry Saltzgaber. In 1870 this was torn down and a brick hotel in its place erected by Mr. Davis which was known as the "Commercial House." This building has since been divided into business rooms.

In the meantime Samuel M. Clark was conducting a tavern in his building on the Kauke corner. The sign-post was a hickory tree cut off and the sign put up read, "The Other Tavern, kept by Samuel M. Clark." This did a flourishing business for its size, which was 18 by 20 feet, with several additions. In 1840 Mr. Clark built an additional building, a good hewed-log house, two stories high, adjacent to his other buildings. Soon after this the tavern was occupied by various parties, among

whom were Thomas Thorn, Morgan Savage and Benjamin Fisher. Later it was converted into a dry goods store and in 1861 was torn down to make room for the Kauke brick block.

FIRST SAWMILL.

The first sawmill was erected by Samuel M. Clark for James Watson Riley, on a contract he made with the commissioners when the county seat was located. The mill was erected west of where the Cincinnati Northern shops are located. The next one was erected by a man by the name of Stage and was located on the Samuel Murphy farm north of town. There was also a grist-mill in connection, at which corn was ground when there was water enough to run the mill. The first steam sawmill was erected by William Parkinson west of the old cemetery on the ground where Dr. William Smith, Jr., now lives. The next one was built by Jerry and Washington Zeigler, north of the old cemetery. While it was still in operation, the lumber was here sawed for a mill that was erected by Joseph Gleason and Thomas R. Kear on the ground now occupied by William A. Clark as a residence. This sawmill was followed by one built by Joseph Gleason on the site now occupied by the Gleason Lumber Company.

These were all originally of the upright or muley saw kind, although some of them later substituted the circular saw for the muley. At the present day a muley saw would be as much of a curiosity as a Virginia schooner.

FIRST TANNERIES.

John F. Gabby erected the first tannery on the lots where the Anderson piano factory now stands, but as it did not prove a financial success he took the movable parts farther west

The next one was built by John Uncapher and was situated where Hankammer's residence now is, at the fork of the Willshire and Shanesville roads.

The next one was built by D. H. Clippinger and was situated where Hertel's poultry establishment is now located, at the corner of Walnut and Crawford streets.

The next and last tannery was operated by John Malick in the brick building now occupied by Rice Brothers as a stable, on the alley running north from East Crawford street.

A new process of tanning hides in 90 days that formerly took 12 months made the old-fashioned tanneries unprofitable and concentrated the business in the hands of a few large concerns.

OTHER EARLY INDUSTRIES.

The first brick kiln was burned by William Groscost. The writer thinks it was burned for Samuel M. Clark; he recollects that Clark employed and paid the hands that worked in the brick yard among whom were John W. Clark, James Conn and Charles Gilliland. Later Jacob Parkinson manufactured brick and still later Thomas L. Lehew engaged in the business, burning the brick for nearly all the brick buildings in the town up to 1880 and 1890. Lehew was followed by Rupright Brothers.

The first shoemaker was Isaac Daugherty; the next was John Roach or "Jack," as he was called. Roach went from house to house in the fall of the year and made up the family shoes. William Cayton started the first tailor shop, which was located on the Dr. Hugh McGavren lot.

Peter Wills was the first carpenter, being followed by Abraham Zimmerman. In 1842 George Dress opened a shop and worked at his

trade for five or six years. Jacob Thorn and Daniel Evers came next. In 1841 W. H. Brown started a cabinet-shop on the lot where the Van Wert House now stands. In 1840 Isaiah and Joshua Shaffer started a wheelwright-shop on the corner of Washington and Jackson streets, but soon gave it up, bought land and went to farming. Abel R. Strother had the first wagon-shop in the town, in 1842.

FIRST SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLHOUSES.

The first school taught in Van Wert was by Mrs. Alderman in a log house built for John F. Gabby on the lot now occupied by G. M. Saltzgaber as a residence. The next was taught by Clarissa Gleason and the succeeding one by E. R. Wells, in the Court House on the corner of South Washington street and Central avenue. Then Relief Morse taught school in the building formerly occupied by the Shaffer brothers as a wheelwright shop. Then came Jacob Parkinson.

The first schoolhouse was a hewed-log house built on the lot on which the Wayne Hotel stands on Jackson street. It was occupied as such until 1855, when two frame houses, two stories high, were built—one in the east and the other in the west part of town. These were occupied until 1868, when the present Third Ward school building was erected. Since then there have been four additional ward school buildings erected—one in the First ward, one in the Second ward, and two in the Fourth ward.

SOME PIONEER INCIDENTS AND STORIES.

When C. W. Goss's father came to Van Wert, he bought a house where Mrs. Conn's millinery store is. Part of the house was not plastered and there were no lath to be had

except as they were split out of oak timber. He made arrangements with the Workman boys, living on what is now known as the Kauke farm, to help saw the timber, and started his son, C. W. Goss, out with a crosscut saw on his shoulder. As C. W. Goss was passing Jim Longs' new house on South Cherry street into which he had just moved, the Longs were at breakfast and there were two cub bears killing the chickens near the house. Goss told Long what was up, and he came out with an oath at every jump, and grabbing a handspike killed the two cubs. Goss then went on and after passing William Parents' home (the Joseph Johnson place) came upon an old she bear and a cub. Goss says he dropped the saw in the middle of the road, took to his heels through the mud and made good time back to Parents', where he arrived covered with mud from head to foot. He told Parent what he had seen. Goss and Parent with his gun went back to where the former had seen the bears. Finding the tracks, Parent followed after, but soon missed the cubs' track. He followed the old one, which passed close to Smith Hill's and Hill went along; they followed her until night and then gave it up. The next day Goss saw Parent, who said that they were so close on the bear when it crossed the Little Auglaize, south of where is now Middlepoint, that they could see the water running into the bear's tracks. Goss was a little skeptical and seeing Smith Hill a short time afterward told him what Parent had said. Hill said, "It is true there was water in the bear's tracks, but I did not see it running in."

When Van Wert was in its natural state—that is, the mud was about a foot deep—Joseph Shilling, Barney Klet and Casper Von Walt decided to play a trick on Mike Hoffman, a man that was fond of his dram. They

agreed to furnish him a pint of whisky if he would ride a horse belonging to Shilling. The whisky was furnished and for fear of some mishap Mike drank the whisky while they were getting the horse ready. They put him on facing the horse's tail. When the horse started Mike caught around its flanks with both arms, which caused the horse to kick and run, Mike slipped off into the mud without damage but the horse didn't stop and it was three days before he was found. Then they had to pay \$3 for having him brought back.

At an early day a trial of some interest was being heard in Willshire and a number of men from Van Wert were drawn there either by subpoenas or curiosity, among them being Robert Conn, James Weoster and quite a number of other. On the way over some of them had noticed a large hornets' nest. On the way back they were divided into two squads. The squad in front thought to have some fun by firing into the hornets' nest and have them thoroughly aroused by the time the second squad came up; but not being well acquainted with the hornets they did not know how long it took to rouse them. They fired into the nest and for the next half mile there was as lively a race along that trail as if there had been a whole tribe of Indians after them, and their wounds were as sore as if caused by the scalping knife. They didn't even ask the second party if they had seen the hornets' nest.

James G. Gilliland owned 10 lots north of Sycamore street, between Washington and Market streets that Dr. Lenox wanted to buy. Mr. Gilliland asked him \$100 for the lots. Lenox offered to doctor Mr. Gilliland's family 10 years for the lots, which offer was accepted. The Doctor lived eight years after the deal and during this period was called but once to treat any of the family. When he died,

he left but little property and there was no claim made for the remainder of the unearned price. So it was \$100 for one visit.

At one time a number of men were out duck hunting along the creek south of town, Dr. Hines on one side of the creek and Robert Gilliland on the other. Gilliland shot at a duck and the shot glanced off the water. Hines cried out that he was shot. Gilliland waded the creek up to his arms, notwithstanding he was suffering with rheumatism, and found the doctor apparently suffering intensely. When they made an examination, they found one shot had lodged in the abdomen and had only partly buried itself in the flesh. Hines recovered immediately and said that in his case imagination was as severe as reality could possibly be. But Robert Gilliland suffered the reality in a severe spell of rheumatism and could never be convinced that his was imagination.

SOME NOTORIOUS CHARACTERS.

Among the early residents of the town were several characters that became of some note in an unenviable role.

Bash Howard was a laborer and never owned anything but what he had on his back or had in his pocket. He owed a bill for his poll tax and refused either to do the two days' work on the highway required or to pay the judgment the supervisor obtained against him. He only laughed at the constable when the latter tried to collect the judgment. The constable told him that he would collect it. Howard replied, "When you get it, let me know." Howard was a powerful man and enjoyed a fight as well as he did his breakfast. A short time after this talk of the constable, a controversy arose in which Howard took a prominent part. Some words passed that Howard

thought reflected on him and he threw off his coat to whip his traducer, when the constable picked up the coat and walked off with the laugh on Howard, as the whole thing had been arranged. Howard paid the judgment, as that was cheaper than to buy a new coat.

Another one was Ratlif, who was a petty thief. He lay in jail five months waiting for his trial for stealing a calf skin, valued at \$2.50. At one time he went to harvest for a man. When the reapers after the first through were resting, Ratlif took off his hat and a pair of socks fell out of his hat. He tried to get them out of sight under the bosom of his shirt; when he saw that his actions were noticed, he said that he had started from home in such a hurry that he had not taken time to put on his socks, but the reapers saw that he already had on a pair. He had stolen the socks off the clothes-line of one of his neighbors. He spent a large part of his time in jail but never stole enough to get more than a jail sentence. His last offense was the theft of a couple of hams; it was then intimated to him that it would be healthier for him to move and he did.

Another notorious character was William Stanford, better known as Bill Myers; a thief by occupation, he would steal anything from a chicken to a horse. At one time he stole something, I believe it was a heifer, and was arrested and convicted. He asked the constable, Isaac Daugherty, to go with him to his foster brother, John Myers, who lived south of town, to get security for the fine; but John Myers refused to bail him and they set out on the return journey. There was no bridge at that time across the creek—only a foot log in front of where is now the *Bulletin* office. In crossing the creek the constable went ahead; when he was about half way over the creek Bill Myers knocked him off the log and broke

for the woods. Myers was not heard from for several months. When he finally returned, riding a fine gray horse, he was arrested and word sent in every direction, but no owner to the animal was found. He sold the horse to the sheriff, Samuel M. Clark. He afterward said that he stole it in Pennsylvania and rode two nights and a day without sleep or feed for the horse. Toward morning of the second night he turned the horse into a field of oats and lay down in a fence corner with his head on the saddle. He awoke at the sound of a bell ringing for breakfast to find the sun was shining. On looking about for his horse, he saw men leading his horse into a barn. Waiting until they went in to breakfast, he secured the horse without difficulty and hurried away.

He stole a very fine mare from a doctor in Fort Wayne in daylight. The doctor rode up in front of a store where there were half a dozen men sitting around, hitched his mare and went in. Myers got on the mare and rode off. The doctor came out and missed his mare. The bystanders recollected that a man had unhitched the mare and rode away. Pursuit was started inside of 10 minutes but Myers, having the best animal, made his escape. There was a reward of \$50 offered for information that would lead to the recovery of the mare. Myers was arrested and lay in jail a long time but could not be identified. After having been in jail for some time in Lima for some crime, J. G. Gilliland brought him back to Van Wert for trial. On the way Gilliland said to Myers, "You know there is a reward of \$50 for that mare you stole in Fort Wayne. Tell me where she is and I will divide the reward with you." Myers rode along for some time without speaking and then said, "I would like to have the \$25, but there must be honor among thieves."

Once Myers came into the Gilliland lane,

riding a large gray horse in a lather of sweat, and John Mark close behind on another gray horse shouting "horse thief." Myers turned into the woods west of the house and the next day was in town. He was watched for weeks until the citizens were satisfied that he had an accomplice that had taken the horse. But as there was not a house for 40 miles north, it was useless to look for it. The horse was stolen in Allen County, and the owner was in sight of Myers when they came to Marks' home, where Marks took up the chase. The horse was never found or heard of.

Myers was never convicted of any but petty crimes and finally died from hard drink, leaving a family that followed in his footsteps—all except his oldest son who when he returned from the army commenced railroading and was a passenger conductor when he died, being well respected where he lived.

Sam Maddox was another petty thief and he and Myers spent a portion of their time in jail together. The ceiling of the jail had dried out to such an extent that they could pry the logs apart so that they could climb up between them and get out at a hole in the gable end. They would get out at night, steal chickens and other eatables, go to Myers' home and have a feast and be back in the jail in the morning. One night they took their night vessel and threw it through J. M. Barr's window. Barr was prosecuting attorney.

Of at least a dozen horses stolen from a distance and brought here, no owners were ever found.

THE TOWN INCORPORATED.

In 1848 the General Assembly passed an act incorporating the town of Van Wert and defining its boundaries. John W. Conn, P. Jacob Hines and Robert Gilliland were au-

thorized to put up in three public places in said town a notice to the electors thereof that an election for one mayor, one recorder and five trustees would be held at the Court House on Saturday the 13th day of May, 1848.

At the election held on the 13th of May, 1848, James M. Barr and Isaac Daugherty acted as judges and E. G. Jones as clerk. Richard C. Spears was elected mayor; E. G. Jones, recorder; and J. G. VanValkenberg, Reuben Frisbie, William R. Kear, Walter Buckingham and Hiram Campbell, trustees.

MAYORS.

The following have been elected mayor of Van Wert, from 1848 to the present time: R. C. Spears, 1848-50; C. P. Edson, 1850-51; John W. Conn, 1851-54; W. C. Gallaher, 1854-56; George L. Jacobs, 1856-57; Davis Johnson, 1857-62; Joseph Slater, 1862-66; James M. Barr, 1866-67; I. N. Alexander, 1867-69; G. M. Saltzgaber, 1869-70; H. C. Glenn, 1870-72; George E. Wells, 1872-74; Thaddeus S. Gilliland, 1874-78; Andrew J. Porter, 1878-1880; George E. Wells, 1880-82 (appointed in 1880 and elected in 1881); Ira P. Shisler, 1882-84; S. B. Austin, 1884-85; W. H. Mozier, 1885-86; J. O. Browder, 1886-90; O. A. Balyeat, 1890-94; James F. Higgins, 1894-96; C. N. Sutphen, 1896-98; M. H. Osborn, 1898-1900; James B. Smith, 1900-02; E. C. Stitz, 1902-1903; G. W. Newton, 1903-1906; C. E. Lawhead, 1906—.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Van Wert has now a paid fire department, one of the most efficient in Northwestern Ohio. The department, which only in recent years has been a paid one, has been well conducted and with one or two exceptions has been suc-

cessful in putting out fires in an incredibly short time.

The *Van Wert Fire Company* was organized in January, 1872. A hand engine and two trucks, reels and hose were purchased by the Council. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and officers elected on the 30th of January, 1872. The following were the officers chosen at the first election: J. H. Foster, foreman; George H. Mowry, 1st assistant foreman, C. F. Bickford, 2nd assistant foreman; D. A. Clark, secretary, and George W. Clark, treasurer. In 1877 the council purchased one of the Ahrens steam fire engines, which has been in service ever since, but is not often used now since the installation of the water-works. J. H. Foster was foreman of the company from its organization in 1872 until 1890.

The *Buckeye Hook and Ladder Company* was organized as an independent company of about 50 men. With their own money they purchased a hook and ladder truck and the necessary apparatus. Several years later the company sold their property to the village. Since then, up-to-date trucks and equipment have been purchased. The well-drilled hook and ladder company never fails to accomplish good work when called upon.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper in Van Wert was started by George E. Burson in 1844, and named the *Van Wert Patriot*. The next paper, owned and published by William Moneysmith was named the *Bugle*.

The *Bugle* passed into the hands of Conn and O. W. Rose, and the name was changed to the *National American*. It was edited by I. N. Alexander, Lewis Evers and Tilbery in succession. The name was next changed to the *Ohio Weekly Bulletin*, and was edited in

turn by Col. Joseph Cable, William C. Scott, R. B. Encell, A. C. Tucker and H. C. Glenn. The name was changed in 1859 to the *Van Wert Bulletin*. After its editor and proprietor, William C. Scott, entered the army in 1861, the *Bulletin* was owned and edited in turn by H. C. Glenn, J. H. Foster, Foster & Hammer, Glenn & Foster, Summersett & Arnold and John A. Arnold and was finally formed into a joint stock company, the stock being owned by J. H. Foster and his family.

In 1873 in addition to the weekly *Bulletin* they started an evening daily, which has had a very large circulation from the start. In 1895 the weekly *Bulletin* was discontinued and a twice-a-week *Bulletin* took its place. The paper is ably edited and the young members of the family are furnishing the vim and push that we often find lacking in country papers. In addition to their papers they conduct an up-to-date job office.

The *Bulletin* traces its history back to the *Bugle's* first appearance in 1844, never having suspended for a day. After many moves from its first location between Jefferson and Washington streets to Main street, it has finally become a permanent fixture on the south bank of the "Little Jordan." It is Republican in politics, following that organization since it first made its appearance as the champion of free territories and free speech.

The *Watchman* was started by William Moneysmith in 1854. He was followed in 1856 by H. S. Knapp (known as the fighting editor), and he by Duane Roberts in 1857. In that year the press was purchased by a joint stock company and the name changed to the *Weekly Constitution*. Its editors in succession were H. S. Knapp, J. Clutter, E. B. Hearn and Van Valkenberg. On August 29, 1865, it was purchased by Moneysmith & Tucker and the name changed to the *Van Wert Times*. It

was later edited and owned by A. C. Tucker, Wright & Phillips, A. C. Tucker, D. McDowell and Hall & Moore until 1870 when it was purchased by W. H. Clymer, by whom it was edited. It was finally purchased by a joint stock company and was edited by George W. Kohn until 1900, when it was purchased by a newspaper syndicate and since has been edited by Emery Lattanner. In addition to the weekly paper, a morning daily was started in 1904. A job office is operated in connection with the paper.

The *Times* is Democratic in politics. After many changes both of name and editors, it seems at last to have become a fixture on West Court street.

The *Press* was established in 1874 by Grimes McConahay & Son. It later passed into the hands of J. A. McConahay and was finally discontinued.

The *Morning Star* was issued as a spiritual paper but after a short struggle expired for want of patronage.

The *Van Wert Republican* was started April 26, 1883, by Milton B. Evers and was sold to E. L. & T. C. Wilkinson on October 5, 1885. T. C. Wilkinson disposed of his interest to E. L. Wilkinson in July, 1895; E. L. Wilkinson sold to John B. Smith, in February, 1897; and Smith sold to W. L. Scott in April, 1902. The Republican Printing Company was incorporated in December, 1902. Since then the paper has been edited by D. J. Evans. They have a well-equipped job office in connection with the paper.

The *Republican* as its name indicates is Republican in politics and has a large circulation, especially in the country where the dailies do not reach.

STAVE FACTORIES.

The first stave factory was erected by War-

ren & Wells on the ground now occupied by the Cincinnati Northern freight house and tracks. Washington Zeigler was foreman for many years.

The next one was put up by Messrs. Pennypacker and Sibley and occupied 10 acres between West Main street and "Keartown." It was a joint stock company. The charter members were D. H. Pennypacker, R. Sheppard, George Sibbett, Samuel Neel and Josiah Sibley. The officers were: W. G. Pennypacker, president; W. S. Craig, vice-president; I. H. Eldridge, secretary and treasurer.

The Eagle Stave Company was formed as a stock company in 1870, the stockholders being A. Conant, F. J. Bonewitz, W. N. Longsworth, I. N. Alexander, W. Zeigler, A. B. Gleason, H. C. Glenn and Warren & Wells. In 1871 G. H. Marsh bought an interest and later on bought a controlling interest and has managed it since that time until a few years ago, when he surrendered the charter. The machinery has been taken out and moved to Missouri.

L. Meredith and Henry Butler started a hardwood stave and heading factory and dressed their staves by horse power with what was called a bucking machine. Later on Meredith sold his interest to Brumback and J. K. Scott, and the factory was enlarged, steam power installed and the timber bought in the bolt instead of being split and then bucked. They afterward added slack barrel works to their plant. The firm's name was H. Butler & Company.

The stave factories added much to the wealth of the county and hastened the clearing up of the land. After the hard and soft timber that could be worked up by the factories was taken off, there was little left and the land was easily cleared. While many did not save the amount of timber land that they should

have, yet with the almost universal use of wire fencing and of coal for fuel it is not necessary.

THE ANDERSON PIANO COMPANY

Is the present name of Van Wert's leading manufacturing concern. The original company was organized in February, 1896, by G. W. Newton, Charles F. Manship, James F. Higgins and George W. Kohn, Gust. Ad. Anderson and O. C. Nelson came here April 15, 1896, and began the making of the famous Anderson piano, the manufacture of which had already been begun by Mr. Anderson in Rockford, Illinois, in 1892.

This company is now controlled financially by the leading financiers and business men of Van Wert. The directors are George H. Marsh, J. G. Rupright, J. P. Reed, R. J. Cavett, F. L. Webster, Charles F. Manship, J. B. Smith, O. C. Nelson and Gust. Ad. Anderson; and the officers are J. G. Rupright, president; George H. Marsh, vice-president; R. J. Cavett, treasurer; Charles F. Manship, secretary; Gust. A. Anderson, manager; and O. C. Nelson, superintendent.

This concern has always advanced on conservative lines and has ever held the quality of their instruments up to the highest standard, which has resulted in a steady increase in the volume of their business. This year the company will not turn out less than 48 pianos a month.

THE UNION MILLS

Were built by C. Link, who sold out a few years later to Hardesty & Hardesty, who in turn sold to Link & Emerson, and they in turn to John Rout. On February 27, 1871, the Union Flouring Company was incorporated and purchased the mills of John Rout. The

incorporators were F. J. Bonewitz, S. Swineford, John A. Conn, T. S. Gilliland and Jacob Fox.

The building is situated on the corner of Crawford and South Walnut streets. The building is a frame 65 feet square, three stories high with a capacity of 400 bushels per day. At the time the company was formed and the plant purchased, there was considerable real estate attached, which has since been sold. This real estate was located where are now F. N. Walker's, C. B. Johnston's and Keiger & Dickinson's feed barns and other buildings along Market street, and represented a valuation at that time of \$16,000. An important improvement was added in the way of an elevator by which it is possible to hold sufficient grain to keep the mills going when there is but little grain moving. The mills are now owned by Adam Wise, who is a practical miller and superintends it himself. He is having a good run of custom.

WAREHOUSES AND ELEVATORS.

The first grain warehouse was built by L. F. Fletcher on the corner of Washington and Jackson streets, but it was soon abandoned for that purpose, because the railroad company refused to put in a side track.

Fletcher then built another on the northeast corner of Market and Jackson streets. Shortly after this was built, the War of the Rebellion broke out and Fletcher's sympathy being with the South he had the courage of his convictions and went South. It is said that he secured letters of introduction from his friends in the North and had a pair of shoes made for the purpose with the papers between the outer and inner soles. He engaged in the cotton trade between the Southern States and Mexico and amassed a large fortune. As he

bought with Confederate money and sold for gold, the profits were large. After a sale he would exchange his gold for Confederate money and buy more cotton, but after changing about \$30,000 in gold and investing the proceeds in cotton the Union forces captured his cotton and left him bankrupt. After the war, he came back North, broken-hearted, and died in the county infirmary.

His last warehouse was finally purchased by T. S. Gilliland and an elevator put in and operated by steam. Bonewitz & Johns built a small elevator on the east of the one owned by Gilliland and after operating it for a few years sold it to Gilliland. Both of these elevators were consumed in the fire that destroyed six buildings for Gilliland and three for C. W. Lown, one for the Standard Oil Company, and one for Mrs. Henrietta Lown. Gilliland rebuilt and operated the elevator until July, 1905, when he sold out and the elevator is now owned and operated by Mahan & Johnson.

The Grange organization built a large elevator on the corner of Jackson and Cherry streets, according to the Chase plan, but it was not suitable for a country elevator. This they operated for a number of years. It was finally sold to George H. Marsh and he to Ireton Brothers. This elevator was destroyed by fire and was replaced by one more suitable for the kinds of grain handled in the county. This one are still operating, having taken a brother-in-law into the firm, which is now Ireton Brothers & Eikenburg.

J. W. McMillen built an elevator in the west part of town on the Cincinnati Northern Railroad. This was burned down but it was replaced immediately and is now operated by J. W. McMillen & Son.

Van Wert is a good location for grain and hay. The territory has been restricted by the elevators being built in the neighboring towns

yet our elevators are having all they can take care of at present. They are frequently annoyed by the scarcity of cars for shipping, yet with the amount of incoming freight that is unloaded here they fare much better than elevators at neighboring towns.

MERCHANTS.

The names given under the above heading include both those who are in business now and those who were so engaged in the past.

Grocers.—S. Swineford, A. Conant, A. Lynch, D. H. Clippinger, Andrew Conn & Company, H. J. Wise & Son, David Newcomer, Jacob Miller, C. W. Wallis, Andrew Moebus, D. H. Shull, Tucker & Patterson, Peterson & Halfhill, Brehm & Slade, Fox & Slade, M. L. Purnmort, George Hammer, David & Allen, Henry David, Edwards & Gaskill, William Pier, George Hull, Dunathan & Humphreys, Humphreys & Hughes, McCoy & Harnley, McCoy & Collett, Collett & Harnley, A. W. Scott, Harry Darnell, A. P. Conn, Conn & Cave, C. B. Pearson, J. E. Fowler, J. C. Sells, A. K. Sweet, A. R. McCoy, Collett & Son, George W. Moltz, Luman Slade, David Harnley, Ream & Doran, U. S. Wise, Meredith & Clippinger, D. L. Clippinger, Capper & Terry, Evans Brothers & Collins, Evans Brothers, G. W. Newton, Collins & White, Conn & Scott, John Stouder, John A. Conn, Willard Pennell, Wisman & Allen, A. P. Wisman, W. H. Dye and Sherman Allen. The following grocers are now in business: D. R. Miller, W. W. Collins, Benjamin Coleman, Will Young, H. V. Allen, A. Rothacker, Lynch & Greenwalt, Hire & Crosby, Charles W. Kiggins, H. A. McCoy, Benjamin Yoh, R. B. Pearson, L. D. Whiteleather, C. M. Siders, E. Brown, W. G. Edwards, DeVoe & Son, Frank Clay, H. Woolery, Lewis Graves, Charles W.

Webster, Wisman & Mohler, O. W. Allen, Conn & Balyeat and Jerry Agler.

Wholesale Grocery.—The Humphreys Grocery Company is worthy of notice. It has grown from a small beginning in the retail trade until it is one of the largest wholesale houses outside of the large cities. It occupies a large stone building, 66 by 132 feet, three stories and basement, which are filled with the wares they carry.

Bakers.—Charles Beiber, Christ Huffman, Kesler, Swoveland & Gephart, A. Lynch, Jacob Miller, Miller and Gephart, David Newcomer, Ream & Doran, Capper & Terry, Blanchard & Brown, E. Brown, Yost & Son, ——— Jones and John Jacobs. The bakers in business at present are: A. Rothacker, Lynch & Greenwalt, A. B. Miller and Lewis Graves.

Dry Goods Merchants.—Samuel M. Clark, Adam Nimon, Thomas R. Mott, J. G. & Robert Gilliland, Walter Buckingham, George S. Crafts, (A.) McGavren & Clark (O. P.), O. P. Clark, S. F. Hahn, Reuben Frisbie, James Webster & Brother, E. Laukhart, D. H. Hackadorn, Bonewitz, Schumm & Company, L. G. Schumm, Webster & Troup, F. L. Webster, D. R. Bonewitz, Williams & Roberts, I. Sealberg & Company, J. O. Roberts, Kyle & Reece, E. R. Wells, D. S. Miller, E. Vance, William Anderson, Bonewitz & Johns, Thomas S. McKim, Charles Mount, W. B. Harb, McKim & Zimmerman, McKim & Hall, Zimmerman & Hall, McKim & Son, George W. Moltz, J. S. Brumback & Company, R. L. Gipe, L. F. Zimmerman, Roebuck & Teubner, A. L. Teubner, D. R. Bonewitz's Sons, G. M. Hall, New York Store and Bigelow & Wilson.

Furniture Dealers and Undertakers.—Fred Coffin, William Morse, G. G. Goss, Crumrine & Wells, Crumrine & Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Zeigler & Evers, C. W. Lown and Penn & Strother.

Here the furniture business and undertaking became separated, and the furniture business was carried on by Penn & Cupp, C. W. Goss, Ream & Streit, H. J. Cavett, J. F. Sidle & Son, Balyeat Brothers and Palmer Brothers. The present firms are Sidle, Bonewitz & Needler, Balyeat Brothers and Palmer Brothers.

The undertaking was carried on by C. W. Lown & Son, Vore & Fronfield, W. L. Rank, B. F. Fronfield, B. L. Vore and Rank & Painter. The present undertakers are B. L. Vore and Rank & Painter.

Druggists.—Linn & Martin, A. P. Linn, Dr. Fred Coffin, Dr. D. K. Galliher, Dr. U. W. Hertz, Hines & Morse, Hines & Son, C. A. Melshimer, H. Noell, Noell & McDonald, D. L. McDonald, Gackenhimer & Son, L. F. Gackenhimer, Butler & Boroff, F. J. Boroff, McGavren & Holbrook, Stemen & Dunathan, Stemen & Gipe, Clark, Stemen & Gipe, C. B. Stemen, Longworth & Pennell, W. H. Pennell, F. P. Hill & Company, L. K. Webster & Company, Webster Brothers, Pennell Brothers and C. J. Haven.

Of the above, Linn & Martin sold to A. P. Linn; he kept the store for many years and finally moved it to his residence. Dr. Fred Coffin sold to Dr. D. K. Galliher and there the store was lost sight of. Dr. U. W. Hertz sold to Longworth & Pennell; Longworth & Pennell to W. H. Pennell; W. H. Pennell to F. P. Hill & Company; F. P. Hill & Company to L. K. Webster & Company; L. K. Webster & Company to Webster Brothers, the present proprietors. McGavren & Holbrook sold to Stemen & Dunathan; Stemen & Dunathan to Stemen & Gipe; Stemen & Gipe to Clark, Stemen & Gipe; Clark, Stemen & Gipe to C. B. Stemen. Hines & Morse sold to Hines & Son, and later the business passed to Hines Brothers, the present proprietors. After C. A. Melshimer's death, H. Noell bought the stock and

then sold to Noell & McDonald; they sold to D. L. McDonald and he in turn to C. J. Haven, the present proprietor. Gackenhimer & Son sold to L. F. Gackenhimer and at his death the business went to Butler & Boroff, who sold to F. J. Boroff, the present proprietor. Pennell Brothers started July 4, 1894, and are present proprietors.

Clothing Dealers.—Ed. Steinfield came first with a pack on his back. Afterward he bought a horse and soon had capital enough to start a store. Finally he went to Rochester, New York, where he became wealthy. The next clothing dealer to locate in Van Wert was Gen. A. Jacobs, who has been in the business since 1855 and is now the oldest merchant here, having been in business continuously for over 50 years. Charles Rose was here for a few years. Decker Brothers were here in 1865. Gus Brewer abandoned his stock of goods and went to California. His creditors took the goods. Emanuel Straus also let his creditors pocket their loss. Other clothing dealers who have been engaged in business in Van Wert in the part are: E. Alexander, G. W. Day, Cahn Brothers, — Stamm, — Knapp, H. V. Olney, Davies & Jones, Hy. Davies, W. H. Clymer & Son, L. G. Germann and Ed. Doe. The following firms are in business at the present time: Bien Brothers, Stamm Clothing Company, Gen. A. Jacobs, Balyeat & Wassenberg and Feldner, Olney & Richards.

Hardware Dealers.—A. B. McCurdy conducted the first hardware store. Before his time hardware to a small extent was kept in the general stores. S. B. Hertz was the second dealer in hardware. Others who have been engaged in this line, including those still in business, are; McCurdy & Company (J. H. Kauke being the partner), Casto, Eyler & Lehman, Casto & Eyler, Smith, Bard & Bentley, Clark & Bouton, Bouton & Lawrence, Jones & Tudor, Jones &

Tudor Company, Wilson & Girod, Kauke & Alspach and Lowery & Heistand.

Farm Implement Dealers.—Dunathan & Hard have been in the implement business for many years. They now have a building fronting 84 feet on South Market street and 66 feet deep, with two stories and basement, filled from top to basement with all the latest improved machinery. Gilliland & Gilliland have been in the implement business for many years. Both are practical farmers and have a large acquaintance in the country. They carry a large stock, having purchased the old Armory Building, which they have well filled with machinery. Charles Cook has been in the implement business for some years and is well acquainted with the trade and carries a good stock. Charles Strother has had a number of years experience in handling machinery and besides is a good machinist, having learned that trade and followed it for a number of years. He has now embarked in the farm implement business with a fair stock.

Harness Dealers.—B. F. Shoop, Nelson Fugate, —Guyselman, Fred Henerman, John Strandler, —Rague, S. B. Bradberry and Standler, Gilliland & Company.

Jewelers.—Including those still in business, the following jewelers have been engaged in business in Van Wert: William Snashall, Snashall & Son, L. Meredith, J. C. Sholler, A. P. McConahay, McConahay & Myers and J. D. Rowland.

BANKS.

The First National Bank of Van Wert was organized February 25, 1863, with a capital stock of \$60,000. The original stockholders were: D. W. Burt, C. Emerson, E. R. Wells, A. S. Burt, S. Swineford, F. J. Bonewitz, D. A. Johns, A. Conant, Jacob Fox, A. W. Baker, A.

B. McCurdy, Almira Smith, William Smith and J. W. Rout. The first officers were: President, C. Emerson; cashier, A. S. Burt; directors—C. Emerson, D. W. Burt, E. R. Wells, F. J. Bonewitz and A. Conant. The bank's statement in 1864 showed a capital stock of \$60,000 and deposits of \$7,328.11.

The bank's statement January 29, 1906, showed a capital stock of \$150,000; surplus and undivided profits of \$45,424; and deposits of \$565,321. The present officers are: President, A. R. Gleason; cashier, F. L. Webster; directors—G. H. Marsh, L. R. Bonewitz, E. K. Ream, A. B. Gleason and F. L. Webster.

The Van Wert National Bank was incorporated in March, 1882, succeeding the private bank of Emerson, Marble & Company.

A comparison of the assets and liabilities of May 19, 1882, on which date the first statement was made to the Comptroller of the Currency, with the last statement made November 9, 1905, shows the growth of the bank, with the rapid increase in wealth of our city and county:—

	ASSETS 1882.	ASSETS 1905.
Loans and bonds	\$175,018.43	\$611,387.18
Cash	60,170.33	169,232.50
Total	\$235,188.76	\$780,713.47
	LIABILITIES 1882.	LIABILITIES 1905.
Capital and profits	\$ 61,148.87	\$150,000.00
National bank notes	45,000.00	250,000.00
Deposits	129,039.89	580,713.47
Total	\$235,188.76	\$780,713.47

The People's Savings Bank has an authorized capital of \$100,000, of which \$50,000 has been paid in. It commenced business on December 7, 1903. Following are the officers: President, W. T. Hughes; vice-president, W. H. Pennell; cashier, F. W. Leslie; directors—



FRANCE STONE QUARRY, NEAR MIDDLEPOINT



AUDITORIUM, VAN WERT



FACTORY OF THE ANDERSON PIANO COMPANY, VAN WERT

W. T. Hughes, C. L. Ireland, M. Woodruff, H. V. Olney, J. W. Longwell, F. W. Leslie, W. R. France, W. H. Pennell and S. Kohn.

LIGHT, POWER AND TELEPHONE COMPANIES.

The Van Wert Gas Light Company, now one of the most prosperous institutions of the city of Van Wert, had a humble and weakly beginning. The first gas works were erected in 1881 by J. H. Miller, Jr. The gas necessary to supply the demand was generated with one bench of three retorts, worked only to about one-half of their capacity. The storage facility consisted of one gas-holder, capable of holding 16,000 cubic feet. The insignificance of these figures are apparent when the present capacity—that of generating a half million cubic feet per day with a storage capacity of 120,000 cubic feet—is understood.

In the same year, 1881, the Van Wert Gas Light Company, a corporation, was formed with an authorized capital of \$25,000, and Mr. Miller transferred the property to the corporation, though he held the bulk of the stock. The first board of directors consisted of J. H. Miller, Jr., Jerome Miller, H. C. Glenn, O. C. McCurdy and John VanLiew. H. C. Glenn was elected president, O. C. McCurdy, secretary and J. H. Miller, Jr., treasurer. In 1882 a syndicate, composed of John VanLiew, G. M. Saltzgaber, H. C. Glenn, O. C. McCurdy and Perry Zimmerman, purchased a majority of the stock and soon thereafter secured the entire stock of the company. Changes occurred from time to time in the personnel of the syndicate until the year 1893, when H. C. Glenn having acquired all the stock became the real owner of the property.

In the meantime the works were practically rebuilt. A water-gas generator took the place of the three retorts; a new gas-holder of 20,000

cubic feet capacity supplemented the first one; new purifying and condensing apparatus took the place of the old and large extensions were made to the mains and service pipes.

In 1896 H. C. Glenn sold all his stock, representing all the property, to J. B. Stevenson, Jr. Mr. Stevenson by his son, J. B. Stevenson, third, owned and operated the plant for about three years, during which time he added some valuable improvements. At the end of this period he sold all the stock to W. T. Morris and the Bradleys, who also purchased the property of the Van Wert Natural Gas Company and united the two properties. These parties made other valuable improvements. Upon the death of the late J. B. Bradley, all the Bradley interest passed to W. T. Morris, who is the owner of the principal portion of the stock. The present officers are: President and treasurer, W. T. Morris; vice-president, T. S. Atkinson; secretary, H. C. Glenn. The capital stock has been increased from time to time, and is now \$150,000, and the property is considered to be of that value.

The Gas-Electric Light & Power Company of Van Wert was incorporated in the year 1889 as the Citizens' Electric Light & Power Company, the incorporators being Levi Meredith, G. J. Wright, George W. Beers, G. L. Marble and Thomas J. Ryan, with Levi Meredith as president and George W. Beers, secretary. Various changes in personnel and management of the plant occurred from time to time until the present owners came into control a few years later.

The plant has grown from its start of 25 street lamps and 600 incandescents to its present total of 80 street lamps and over 4,000 incandescents and a continuous service day and night. A large number of electric motors are also in service, ranging in size from the 1-20 H. P. motor for sewing machines to the 20

H. P. motor for factory purposes. A central station heating plant has been put in operation in connection with the electric plant and for the past four years has been giving general satisfaction, a large portion of the business houses and many residences making use of the heat. The present demand indicates a great increase in both branches of the service. The present officers of the company are: J. M. C. Marble, president; John E. Marble, treasurer; O. A. Balyeat, secretary; and H. P. McDonald, manager. The president and secretary are residents of Los Angeles, California.

The Van Wert Home Telephone Company.—The wonderful telephone industry, which is so necessary to the modern method of doing business quickly, has had a history in Van Wert similar no doubt to that which it has had at other places.

Long ago the Bell Telephone Company on the application of a number of the leading business people established an exchange in Van Wert. This was under the management of George W. Beers, then a Van Wert boy, whose subsequent fame in that business has spread all over the United States. Telephone users were but few in number, the rate charged was \$4 per month for business 'phones, and \$3.50 per month for residence 'phones. The mere fact that so few then were willing to accept service at that rate really made that few less desirable; and upon the demand of the Bell people that the number be increased to at least 50, it was found to be unable to comply with the demand, and the exchange was discontinued.

Afterwards other efforts were made to induce the same people to come here, but not with success. It was supposed that the Bell people had a monopoly of the business, by reason of certain parts of the equipment that were

necessary, but finally it was discovered by some enterprising individuals that the magneto system could be used successfully for telephone service. On the solicitation of Mr. Beers, an independent plant was established in the then village of Van Wert. Hon. H. C. Glenn was elected the first president of the local company, and W. C. Lawrence, secretary.

Afterwards the litigation in the Supreme Court of the United States, instigated by President Harrison, to determine whether the exclusive patents of the Bell Telephone Company on certain apparatus should be canceled, having been determined against the Bell Telephone Company, the form of telephone, the same as used by the Bell Telephone Company, was adopted and the independent movement became a great success.

In Van Wert, after the establishment of the exchange on the part of the independents, the Bell people made several efforts to establish a rival company and divide the subscribers, and have two systems in use instead of one; but in each instance the Bell people were defeated and the growth of the Van Wert Home Telephone Company was continuous and sometimes very rapid.

In 1904, at a very large expense, the home company installed, what is known as the Strowger automatic telephone system,—“the cussless, waitless, out-of-orderless, girl-less telephone,” by means of which any subscriber can call up any other subscriber without the aid of the central office. There are but few places in the world where this system has been inaugurated, but here as elsewhere it has proven a great success, and the people of Van Wert are justified in their boast that our city has one of the finest telephone systems in the world.

The present rates charged are: \$1.25 per month for residence 'phones and \$2.50 per month for business 'phones. All telephone

users are connected with the one system, so that the evils of a divided telephone service is not known in this community. The present number of subscribers is over 1,300. The officers of the company are: Hon. G. M. Saltzgaber, president; J. W. Longwell, secretary; E. M. Leslie, treasurer; and the board of directors consist of Hon. W. T. Hughes, Dr. R. J. Morgan, W. G. Edwards, and the president and secretary.

NATURAL GAS AND OIL.

Oil was discovered in Van Wert city although not in paying quantities; however, a large supply of gas was found. It was decided to abandon drilling for oil and drill for gas, which was found at a higher level. A company was formed and a number of wells put down that were reasonably good wells. Some of the best ones were abandoned when salt water came in. This was done for a purpose, as Eastern parties, who had been taken in and given a controlling interest, decided to pipe from the Mercer field. They gave as their reason for it, that if they developed a good field here and the people became dissatisfied they could organize another company in opposition, but to pipe from the Mercer field would be too expensive. After spending a large amount of money and the Mercer field having failed to supply a sufficient amount of pressure, a very expensive pumping station was put in, which also failed. In the end the company was compelled to fall back on the Van Wert field, which has supplied gas for the town for the last 10 or 15 years. After drilling for oil in Van Wert had ceased, a field was opened in the northeast part of York township and reaching over in Ridge township.

The Van Wert County oil field now extends over the southern tier of townships and

also includes Ridge and a part of Washington townships. Oil has also been found in Pleasant, Union and Tully townships, but not in paying quantities.

THE BRUMBACK LIBRARY.

In 1890 the following ladies of Van Wert, realizing the great good to be derived from a public library, incorporated "The Van Wert Library Association": Mesdames Hattie L. Brotherton, Clara V. Cavett, Ann W. Clark, Frances O. Clark, Lucy Craig, George C. Glenn, Mary J. Hiestand, Mary Leeson, Elizabeth Malick, Isabelle Rose, Fannie H. Stradler and Eudora H. Troup. These ladies canvassed the town for subscriptions and gave entertainments in aid of the project until the nucleus of a circulating library was formed.

Any person who contributed \$3 each year was permitted to share in the use of the library. At the end of the first year, they had a collection of 600 books, placed in charge of a librarian in a rented room. The library became generally appreciated and through the efforts of the ladies, the Common Council of Van Wert in 1896 voted a tax of three-tenths of a mill in aid of the library, on which they realized about \$575 annually.

This together with the money secured from the annual dues of patrons furnished a small sum upon which the library could be maintained, but the purchase of books was necessarily very limited. The field for the work was, however, so much larger than the means wherewith to accomplish the work, and the future so dependent upon constant effort that the ladies, although justly proud of what had been done, might well feel apprehensive for the future when their personal efforts should cease. It was only too apparent that the enterprise might fail if not placed upon a firm and enduring foundation.

It was at this stage that the will of John Sanford Brumback was made public, providing for the gift to the people of Van Wert County of a building in which to forever maintain a free public library, by the following clause in the will: "It is my will and desire that my said dear wife and children expend sufficient of my estate willed to them in items one and two to carry out my wishes known to them by the erection and gift of a library building, something after the plans and designs I have had prepared for that purpose, provided and this item is upon the express condition that my said wife and children can make arrangements satisfactory to them with the City of Van Wert, or if they desire and think best, with Van Wert County, for a location for said building and the maintenance of the library to be placed therein."

Before going on to what has been accomplished under this provision, let us take a cursory view of the life of the man who made possible the firm establishment of a Public Library in Van Wert County.

John Sanford Brumback was born on a farm in Licking County, Ohio, on the 4th of March, 1829, and died December 11, 1897. When he was four years of age, his father died, leaving his mother a legacy of six young children and 40 acres of undeveloped land with a log house upon it. This mother, like others of that day, set bravely to work to eke out a precarious livelihood. Unable to spare her only boy, John, from his work except in the winter season, his early education consisted of the crude instruction received in a country school during the few winters he was privileged to attend school at all. Quick to learn, he acquired even in this short time the rudiments of an education that, added to and rounded out by a life-time of close observation and keen perception, made him a man of general

information and broad intelligence. As illustrative of his self-reliance and capability, his mother sent him at the early age of 10 to market where, with rare judgment, he disposed of the produce the family had to sell. The commercial instinct thus early aroused, he left the farm and entered the grocery business at the age of 17.

The only capital he had was \$50, which his mother had saved and which she willingly entrusted to him. Later, while engaged in the dry goods business at Ashley, Ohio, he married Ellen Pearline Purmont, May 26, 1852.

He afterwards sold his store and moved on a farm between Delaware and Columbus. From there he went to Casey, Illinois, where he conducted a general merchandising and stock business. In 1862 he settled in Van Wert and for over 35 years his life was linked with the growth and history of the town and county. For many years he was engaged in the stove business, was proprietor of a well-known dry goods store and was one of the principal promoters of the Cincinnati, Van Wert & Michigan Railroad. In later years his interests centered largely in the Van Wert National Bank and the Central Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company, of both of which he was president.

A man with a heart full of philanthropy could not die without remembering his fellow-men, if it could be accomplished in justice to his own family. So when he came to draw his will, openly, as he had lived, he called his family around him and freely expressed his thoughts. He said he had long felt like doing something for Van Wert and that he knew of no way in which so much good could come to his old friends and associates and their children, as through a Public Library. Even then in his will he caused the gift of a library building to be optional with his heirs, but the unanim-

mity with which his wife and children carried out the wish expressed in his will bears testimony to the affection and veneration felt for the husband and father.

One thing to be especially noted in the will was the provision for a *County Library*. The suggestion was a noble conception full of great possibilities. Up to the date of this will, no thought apparently was ever directed to the establishment of a county library. When it was first proposed to make the Brumback Library a county institution, many looked askance and could hardly believe it practicable. Of course the inauguration of a county library was not accomplished without much effort and many discouragements. When a bill was drawn by O. S. Brumback to be presented to the Legislature to permit the County Commissioners to bind the county to maintain a library by taxation, it was realized that it could be passed only by vigorous efforts in its behalf. When, however, the farmers of Van Wert County assembled in their Granges and declared, after full discussion, almost unanimously in favor of such library, their action together with the assistance of leading citizens both in town and county caused the bill to become a law in April, 1898.

In August of the same year, the County Commissioners—H. H. Ludwig, Peter Knittle and H. G. Schumm—took the necessary action under the law to execute a tripartite agreement with the Ladies' Library Association and the heirs of J. S. Brumback, namely, Ellen P. Brumback, Orville S. Brumback, David L. Brumback, Estelle B. Reed and Saida M. Brumback (Antrim).

By the terms of the contract, the Ladies' Library Association turned over to the Brumback Library all the books, some 1,600 in number, belonging to the association; the county agreed to forever maintain the library by the

levy of an annual tax upon all taxable property of the county; and the Brumback heirs agreed to construct and furnish complete and ready for use a stone building in one of the parks of the city of Van Wert.

How well the heirs fulfilled the terms of the contract, let the splendid building and furnishings—substantial, commodious and beautiful in every detail—speak.

Believing that the ladies would exercise a most beneficent influence in the management and work of the Brumback Library and to keep it out of political broils, it was also provided in the contract that the library should be managed by a non-partisan board of seven trustees, three to be appointed by the County Commissioners, two by the Ladies' Library Association and two by the Brumback heirs. Their term of office is for three years and in case of failure to appoint, the City Council of Van Wert is to make the appointment. The first board of trustees, composed of the following members, J. M. Laudick, Thomas M. Thorpe, Joseph L. Tossey, Clara V. Cavett, Mary J. Hiestand, Saida B. Antrim and John P. Reed, entered upon the discharge of its duties June 2, 1899.

The ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone occurred July 18, 1899, and was observed in a most fitting manner.

The first day of the new century, January 1, 1901, ushered in the day of dedication of the library. The building was presented by the Brumback heirs and accepted by the county with appropriate exercises, followed by a reception held at the library in the evening.

On January 29, 1901, the library opened its doors to the public with about 5,000 books on its shelves in charge of Miss Ella L. Smith, librarian. And now in this the sixth year of its existence, the present librarian, Miss Jane Brotherton, reports 10,638 books and a circu-

lation of 50,000 volumes annually and branch libraries established at 16 different points throughout the county by which books are made accessible to every one however remote from the central library.

As a county library, the Brumback Library has attracted much attention and the prominence which Van Wert County has received and will continue to receive as the pioneer in such a work, cannot but be a proud distinction and of great benefit to all of her people.

THE GLEASON FAMILY.

Probably the earliest mention of the Gleason family of America, traceable, is found in the records of Cambridge, Massachusetts, where, in 1657, lived Thomas Gleason, who emigrated to America from New Castle, England, the family having originated in the North of Ireland. There is a family legend relating that the first emigrants of the name to come to America were three brothers, who settled in New England, during the colonial period, and were the original stock from which the American family sprung, which gradually spread to adjacent States, until now its descendants are to be found in every Northern State, and doubtless in many Southern States also.

Bezaleel Gleason, the great-grandfather of Andrew J. Gleason, to whom we are indebted for the data of this memoir, is the most remote ancestor known of, in a direct line. He lived near Brattleboro, Vermont, and is said to have taken part with General Stark's "Green Mountain Boys", in the battle of Bennington. He was probably a descendant of the Thomas Gleason above-mentioned. His wife was Phoebe Newberry. Their family consisted of six sons and three daughters, named as follows: Adonijah, Amos, Nathan and Nahum (twins), Ira, Bezaleel, Sarah, Phoebe and Clarissa. Adoni-

jah, who was a Baptist preacher, lived at Sempronius, New York, for a time and then removed to Switzerland County, Indiana; at last accounts he was in Minnesota, where he probably died. To him and his wife Cynthia were born three sons—Justus, Parsons and Elias, of whom the last named lived in Cincinnati during the '50's. Amos, the second son, lived at Caledonia Springs, New York; Sarah (Fisher) also lived in New York State on the St. Lawrence River, while the rest of the family, except Bezaleel (second), continued to reside in Vermont when last heard of. It was while journeying across the mountains on his return from visiting some of his children, that the aged patriarch was overtaken by a tragic fate, becoming bewildered in a mountain storm, causing him to lose his way and to perish in the cold.

Bezaleel Gleason, grandfather of Andrew J. Gleason, settled in Ontario County, New York, near where the town of Shortsville now stands. He was a farmer, and a man noted for great muscular strength. He married Abigail Howland, by whom he had three sons and five daughters, viz.: Stephen, Joseph, Sarah, Phoebe, Clarissa, Mary, Eliza and Benjamin. After his death, which occurred June 21, 1832, his widow resided on the family homestead for some years, then, gathering together her family (except Sarah and Phoebe who had previously married), her two eldest sons piloting the way, she removed, in the summer of 1837, to the unbroken wilds of Van Wert County, Ohio, taking up lands in the southwestern part of Pleasant township, where she resided until her death, which took place August 29, 1851, having seen the most of her children settled around her, and enjoyed the affectionate care of both children and grandchildren.

Stephen Gleason, the eldest son of Bezaleel Gleason (second), was born in Ontario Coun-

ty. New York, July 24, 1801. He married Amanda Fletcher, by whom he had eight children, viz.: Emily (Evers), Sarah J. (Royce), Mary A. (Evers), Lucy O. (Albright), Charles F., George H., Louisa (Kiser), and Oliver B., four of whom are living, viz.: Mrs. Sarah J. Royce, of Columbia City, Indiana; Charles F. Gleason and Mrs. J. W. Kiser, of Dull, Ohio; and Oliver B. Gleason, of Van Wert. For several years after his marriage, Stephen Gleason followed the occupation of a farmer, residing, a part of the time, at a place called Oak Orchard, New York; but, being enticed by the flattering reports from the new country in Western Ohio, after first, with his brother Joseph, having prospected and selected a location, he sold his property in New York State, and at the head of the family colony, with wife and five children, he turned his back on a comparatively comfortable home to face hardships and privations he little dreamed of. At one time he was left in charge of the whole colony, while his brothers, with all the available teams, proceeded to a point on the Maumee River, whither a portion of the household goods had been shipped by water, a trip requiring some weeks in the bad condition of the roads. During all this time Stephen was constantly employed carrying grists of corn to and from a hand-mill, some four or five miles distant, to keep up a supply of breadstuff. Yet indomitable pluck carried him through these and similar hardships until he had made for himself and family a comfortable home again.

Mr. Gleason lived on his farm, which he and his sons brought into a high state of cultivation, until about 1867, having been several times elected county commissioner, and afterward county treasurer, which offices he held with much credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the public. Upon retiring from the office of treasurer, he resumed his farm life,

but, receiving a fair offer for his farm, sold it to Robert Wade, and removed to Van Wert. Here, however, he remained only long enough to enable him to purchase another farm near South Whitley, Indiana, to which he soon after removed. Losing his faithful wife in 1871, he soon gave up farming, spending his time with his children up to the time of his death, June 21, 1883, the 51st anniversary of his father's death. Both his and his wife's remains were brought to Van Wert and interred in the family lot in the old Van Wert Cemetery.

In politics Stephen Gleason was a Democrat, and, being of an argumentative disposition, was always ready for a tilt with a political opponent. His religious belief was Universalism, although never having any affiliation with that church. As a citizen few were looked up to for counsel and advice more than he, and while in or out of public office his best efforts for the promotion of the county's welfare were given without stint, and many substantial improvements in the county will perpetuate the memory of Stephen Gleason.

Joseph Gleason, father of Andrew J. Gleason, was born in Manchester township, Ontario County, New York, September 3, 1803, and, with his brother and sisters, was given a fair common-school education, which qualified him to teach the district school. It was while engaged in teaching he became acquainted with Harriet Brown, who was at that time a pupil in his school, the acquaintance ripening into attachment destined to be life-long, and which resulted in their marriage, February 10, 1828. After his marriage, he continued to reside near the place of his birth, following in turn the occupations of teacher, farmer and lumberman, until the year 1837, when with his wife and three children he joined the little colony then about to try the many vicissitudes of emigration to this then unsettled region. Entering

160 acres of land where Pott's Corners are now, he devoted his time for the next two years to clearing and improving a farm. Having been elected county recorder, he removed to Van Wert in the autumn of 1839, purchasing a log tavern near the northeast corner of Main and Jefferson streets, afterward replaced by him with a two-story frame building, known for many years as the American House. Being quite popular with the new settlers, official honors rather crowded upon him, as he at one time held the office of county recorder, associate judge and justice of the peace, being elected judge for one term. He held the office of justice of the peace for many years, and in the numerous pettifogged cases that came up to his court Squire Gleason's rulings were rarely known to be set aside. After remaining in this diversified employment some 15 years, he leased his hotel property to John W. Conn, and, his term of office as county recorder having expired, formed a partnership with Thomas R. Kear. They erected the first steam sawmill built in the county, on the ground where William A. Clark's flouring-mill was formerly located. After operating this mill about a year, he sold out to his partner, taking a lease of the property for three years as a part of the consideration. At the expiration of the lease, with his brother Stephen as a partner he built what is now the Gleason Lumber Company's mill, of which he afterward became sole owner, operating it with little help, except that of his four sons, for a number of years, its products contributing largely toward the improvement of the town and surrounding country. In the meantime, having sold the hotel property and become possessed of several farms in embryo in the near vicinity of Van Wert, he gradually withdrew from the lumber business (which thereafter was conducted by his two youngest sons) and devoted his entire time to improving

his farms, and looking after other real estate interests. During the centennial year, Mr. and Mrs. Gleason visited the Philadelphia World's Fair, after which they made a tour of the scenes of their childhood in Connecticut and New York, a journey long anticipated and greatly enjoyed. They found as a matter of course, but few still living in the old neighborhoods whom they had known in earlier years, yet this visit was something to recall and live over again until the end of life.

It was with much satisfaction that Joseph Gleason saw nearly all of his children settle around the old home (his eldest daughter having removed to Michigan), and all were often together enjoying happy reunions under the parental roof. He was father of nine children, two of whom (a boy and a girl) died in infancy, seven growing to man's and woman's estate as follows: Mrs. Mariette L. Strother, of Algodon, Michigan; Julius A., Andrew J., Abram B. and Francis J., and Mrs. Julia A. Carper; and Ella A. Carper, of Van Wert, who died April 4, 1896.

In politics Mr. Gleason was always a Democrat, but he drew the line when disunion threatened, casting his vote for Stephen A. Douglas for President, and, when the Civil War came, giving his two elder sons to uphold the "Stars and Stripes." His religious convictions were broad and liberal, and, although never affiliating with any church, he was a strong believer in the final salvation of the whole human race, or, in other words, was a Universalist, losing no opportunity to attend the preaching of that doctrine and to contribute of his means thereto. His favorite mottoes were "Love thy neighbor as thyself" and "Keep thyself unspotted from the world." With this simple creed for his guidance, he was content to trust his future in the care of Him who doeth all things well. The approach of the

grim reaper was gradual but sure for several years, the paralytic symptoms affecting his walk and speech being first noticeable, yet his mental faculties were impaired but slightly up to his death, which occurred February 2, 1883, he having entered upon his 80th year. He was surrounded by all of his family in his last hours and was followed to his chosen resting place in beautiful Woodland by many surviving and loving friends, who will long revere the name of Joseph Gleason.

Harriet Brown Gleason, wife of Joseph Gleason, and eldest daughter of John and Elsie (Fish) Brown, was born February 26, 1811, at East Windsor, Connecticut, her family afterward moving to Ontario County, New York, and thence to Lorain County, Ohio, where her parents resided until their death. While residing in New York she was united in marriage to Joseph Gleason, and afterward, with him and their three small children, emigrated to this county to help build a home in the almost unbroken wilderness. Although many privations and dangers had to be endured, yet she never flinched from her duty, and was in later years rewarded by seeing the wilderness bud and blossom as the rose, and the virgin forests give way to fertile and fruitful farms. So great was the transformation that it was difficult to realize that but a score of years had passed since she had nightly gathered her little ones about her to quiet their fears amid the howling of wolves in the surrounding forests. Mrs. Gleason never affiliated in membership with any church, and with her family was a Universalist in belief. She found her highest good in maintaining an upright character and striving to impart it to her children and grandchildren, who "rise up and call her blessed." She survived her husband a little over five years, her death occurring July 26, 1888, at the family residence on West Main street, Van

Wert, whence her mortal remains were borne by tender hands to be laid beside her loved companion in Woodland Cemetery.

Sarah, eldest sister of Joseph Gleason, married William Pomeroy, with whom she removed to Canada, and, when mother of five children, died. Her husband, being unable to care for the children properly, wrote an appealing letter to the Van Wert relatives in their behalf, which resulted in Stephen and Joseph Gleason undertaking to bring the orphans here to find homes, which was successfully accomplished, and they all lived to become useful citizens, viz.: Francis C. Pomeroy, Mrs. John W. Clark, Carlos Pomeroy, Mrs. John T. Bowers and Mrs. Sarah J. Britton, all of whom are now deceased. Their father followed them to Van Wert after a few years, and lived with his eldest son near Middlebury, up to the time of his death.

Phoebe N., second sister of Joseph Gleason, became the wife of Matson Warren, and with him settled first in Lorain County, and afterward in Lake County, Ohio, whence with their family of seven children they removed to Van Wert County in the '50's, living first in the Gleason settlement, thence removing to Willshire, in and near which town they continued to reside until both parents were summoned to the better land. For a number of years previous to his death, Mr. Warren was totally blind. Mrs. Warren survived her husband some eight or ten years and lived to be the last surviving member of her father's family, her death occurring in December, 1894, at about the age of 90 years. Being a woman of great memory, to her Andrew J. Gleason is indebted for much of the family history here recorded, there being very few records existing in possession of Grandfather Gleason's descendants. Her children were: John B. Warren, of Mount Vernon, Ohio; the late Mrs. Abigail

Langdon, of Liberty township, Van Wert County; Abram M. Warren, of Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Minerva Langdon, of Liberty township, Van Wert County; Mrs. Elmira Richards, of Van Wert; Hiram Warren (deceased) and Job A. Warren, of Pleasant township, Van Wert County.

Clarissa, third sister of Joseph Gleason, began teaching at an early age and was one of the pioneers of the profession in Van Wert County, numbering among her pupils many who are among the best known residents. She became the wife of John Edson, to whom she bore one daughter. In the year 1873, she was bereaved by the loss of both husband and daughter, who were stricken down by the destroyer within but a few weeks of each other. She afterward made her home in Van Wert, becoming an active promoter of Spiritualism, in which doctrine she sought consolation for her double bereavement. Her death occurred November 24, 1893, at the age of 80 years.

Mary, fourth sister, married Jacob Thorn, deceased, late a resident of Chicago, Illinois. She made her home at Delphos, Van Wert and Dixon at different periods, but while residing

at the latter place fell a victim to consumption, August 3, 1856, aged 39 years. No children were born to her.

Eliza, fifth sister, was wedded to Matthew Flagg and resided near her mother's homestead in Pleasant township until about 1858, when she, with her children (two sons and a daughter), took up her residence in Van Wert, where she lived until her death, which occurred June 23, 1867, at the age of 48 years. Henry J. Flagg, her eldest son, is now residing at Xenia, Ohio, while Mrs. Albina Long, the daughter, and Joseph G. Flagg, the youngest son, resides in Whitley County, Indiana.

Benjamin H. Gleason, youngest son of Joseph Gleason, being a mere boy when the family came to Van Wert County, grew to manhood and cared for his widowed mother until her death, after which he married Castara Ann Potts, and in a few years removed to Greenville, Michigan, where he resided until 1890, then coming to Van Wert County, where he made his home with his sister, Mrs. Edson, up to the time of his death, which occurred December 19, 1891, aged 68 years. He left no children.

CHAPTER XIX

EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF VAN WERT BY ANDREW J. GLEASON

Life Among the Pioneers—The Van Wert of 60 Years Ago Described—Stories and Incidents of the Early Days—General Muster—Indians as Frequent Visitors—Early Teachers, Doctors and Lawyers—The Early Industries—Schools and Churches—Camp Meetings—Odd and Notorious Characters.

My earliest impressions of Van Wert date back to the autumn of 1839, when about three years of age. A little more than two years before my parents had removed from Western New York to the unbroken wilds of southwest Pleasant township, where my father, Joseph Gleason, entered a quarter section of land, built a log cabin of sufficient size to shelter his family of five, of whom I was the youngest, and cleared a small farm of about 20 acres and enclosed it with rail and brush fences. The land being heavily timbered, the clearing of the giants of the forest to fit it for cultivation meant a great many sturdy blows of axe and maul, and when at the election held in October, 1839, my father was chosen county recorder he was ready to exchange the axe and the plowshare for the pen. He at once entered upon the duties of his office, which at that time, however, were not onerous, and had to be combined with hotel-keeping and officiating as justice of the peace to provide a sufficient income for the needs of a growing family. He was also appointed an associate judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Van Wert County for a term.

He bought for his new home a log cabin of a story and a half elevation with a stoop in front, on the site now occupied by the Agler art gallery, a wing being extended back for a dining room and a kitchen, the latter room containing a huge fire-place, which served both as a heater and as a cooking place. While there was a cook stove set up in the dining room, the principal culinary work was done at the kitchen fire-place, which was built of logs and sticks with a covering of clay, the hearth being made solely of clay, dried and baked hard and smooth. An iron crane swung across over the fire, upon which the pots and kettles were hung by means of hooks, while baking was done on the hearth in a tin reflection oven, or in a Dutch oven, which was a flat-bottomed kettle standing on three legs over a bed of coals, the cover being flanged deeply to hold coals also. Modern chefs would laugh at these primitive utensils, but when I recall the exquisite flavors of the pumpkin pies, gingerbread and custards turned out of those rude ovens, not forgetting the roasted wild turkeys and saddles of venison that were spitted and done brown over an ample bed of glowing hard-

wood coals, comparisons become odious indeed.

At that time the future city contained hardly a dozen cabins, which were mostly built of round, unhewn logs with most of the bark left on, two exceptions to this rule being a two-story, hewed-log tavern on the northeast corner of Main and Washington streets, owned and kept by Samuel M. Clark (father of William A. and the late John W. and James Clark) and to the east of this a one-story store building about 16 by 20 feet, which was enclosed and covered with split clapboards, being the first frame house erected.

A double one-story log cabin stood across the alley back of the Conant Block, which served the purpose of a Court House when session were held, and a schoolhouse, shoe shop, etc., at other times, the late Edward R. Wells, then county clerk, teaching school in it when court was not in session and making and repairing boots and shoes at odd times. To him I went for my first winter schooling at a very tender age, but old enough to be a source of trouble—a plenty without doubt. One incident often recalled by old schoolmates naturally presents itself more prominently to my mind than others, as I was a central figure. There was a family living in the northern suburbs whose head was Lewis Shultz, whose children attended the school, the eldest being a stout, awkward, romping girl named Katie. I suspect Katie had a pretty good time at school, as her shrill laugh or giggle was heard frequently and almost invariably made me laugh "out loud." One day the teacher called me up before the school and asked the cause of my mirth. With quivering lips and watery eyes, I stammered forth, "I-I-fot I heered a chip-munk, b-but I guess it was K-Katie Stultz a squealin." This threw the whole school into convulsions, and it did

not help to restore order, when the teacher refusing to accept my excuse sentenced me to "rassel" with John Clark, who nearly a six-footer stood before the fire-place with slate in hand cyphering. He was so tall that I could easily put my arms around his leg without stooping, and in the "tug-of-war" that ensued it was hard to tell which pupil was punished the most. Notwithstanding these boyish indiscretions, I somehow managed to remain on good terms with my teacher, and when out of school I often loafed around his shoe bench plying him with questions until he would sometimes lose all patience and send me about my business.

Mr. Wells being for some time one of our regular boarders, it is not strange that he should fall a victim to the charms of a young woman from Hardin County, Sally Thorn, who was my mother's most efficient helper and lifelong friend, and who later became his wife. Two of Miss Thorn's brothers, Benjamin and Jacob, boarded with us, working at the carpenters' trade about the village most of the time and when not thus engaged would be cutting wood for the tavern. Many were the pranks these mischievous brothers would play on their sister and her beau, when they sat before the capacious kitchen fire on cold winter nights, trying to freeze them out in various ways. Once they provided a supply of wood out of a green, wild grape-vine and some green willow, which could not be induced to burn by any amount of coaxing. Another time when the lovers were basking before a moderately good fire, a door was suddenly opened and two wicked brothers rushed in, each with a bucket of water which they deposited on the fire, completely squelching it, which speedily put an end to the young couple's sparking bee for that night. Finally a wedding put an end to the mischief and the newly married couple built a home near the southwest corner of Jackson and Washing-

ton streets, which they occupied until the pressure of business demands induced them to choose another site.

In addition to the buildings already mentioned, at the time my father came to town a small, log blacksmith shop stood in the rear of the Clark tavern, which shop was kept by the late John Kesler (who of comparatively late years had a shop on the northeast corner of Main and Wayne streets), while near the northwest corner of Washington and Jackson streets stood a cabin owned by William Caton—also on the same corner was a log building used as a schoolhouse at different times.

On East Main street, where the Rump Building stands was a two-story double log building erected by Robert Gilliland, one end being used as a store and the other part for dwelling purposes. There was also a cabin on the east side of South Walnut street, which was for a time occupied by a Rev. Alderman, the same who, if I remember rightly, many years later occupied the Methodist Episcopal Church pulpit of Van Wert. Five or six roads (or trails) afforded avenues of travel into and through the village, chief among which was the Bucyrus and Fort Wayne State road, following a gravel ridge nearly all the way from one terminal to the other; others were the Greenville, Jennings, Defiance, Willshire and Shanesville roads, which were mere wood paths wide enough for a wagon track, and usually following streams or ridges of the highest land, as being better adapted for natural highways. As settlers were coming in rapidly, these roads were surveyed and widened out, bridges built across streams, and corduroy or pole roads laid across low ground. Among the early surveyors, I remember John F. Dodds and Cyrenius Elliott well, both of whom I think were from Dayton. While a resident of Van Wert, Mr. Dodds was bereft of his wife, whose grave

was the first one opened in the old Van Wert Cemetery.

James Graves and Samuel M. Clark conducted the two taverns previous to our advent, and when court was in session both hostleries were crowded to their utmost limit. Another time for large patronage was training day or general muster, when the militia, comprising all the able-bodied men between 18 and 45 years of age in the county, would assemble to drill under Captain Marks, equipped generally with corn stalks or hoe handles in lieu of muskets. At general muster General Starbuck, mounted upon fiery charger and resplendent in brass buttons and epaulets, directed the evolutions, impressing us youthful beholders greatly and when the Kear Drum Corps from Willshire beat the "long roll" or played "Nancy Dawson" for the march, we simply went wild with excitement and enthusiasm. Once in a while, too, some of the turbulent class, who never failed to attend such functions, got to fighting and shed gore, but the officers were usually on hand to suppress all disorders, and generally the time passed so pleasantly that all looked forward eagerly to the next training. Twenty years afterward many of us were to see the real thing on a much larger scale on Southern battle-fields, some to bleed and others to die for our country. Few went to the Mexican War from Van Wert, the quota for Ohio being filled from other localities and the Van Wert contingent only got as far as Cincinnati, where the volunteers learned they were not needed. Few of the noted "bruisers," however, showed any disposition to volunteer; those who started for the war were generally of the law-abiding class, while the former class remained at home to the disgust of their well-disposed neighbors.

My father had been elected justice of the peace soon after he came to the county in 1837,

and held the office continuously until he was succeeded by O. W. Rose about the year 1850. In 1840 he was elected associate judge for a term of seven years. Other associates judges that I recall were John Tumbleson, of Pleasant township, and Judges Baird and Tilden, of the eastern part of the county. Patrick G. Goode was presiding judge for many years, while the early pioneer lawyers were "Count" Coffinberry, of Lima, James M. Barr and Richard C. Spears, of Van Wert, and other greater or lesser lights of the law. Spears, who was the father of John R. Spears, of more or less fame as a press correspondent and writer, was notoriously lazy, and was said to be mainly supported by an aunt in the East, who was wealthy. He, however, became a fairly good surveyor as well as an expert angler, taking his greatest enjoyment in the latter pastime, and was noted as the most successful fisherman that haunted the banks of Town Creek. His pole was the shiniest and straightest young hickory to be found in the surrounding forest, being selected in the spring-time when easily stripped of the bark and was the envy of all his rivals, as he was able to stand on the bank and cast a line far beyond his competitors' best efforts, and land the biggest catfish of any of them. In those days the numerous deep holes along the creek yielded fair specimens of the finny tribe, some weighing several pounds. The largest, however, were caught with seines. Spears, however, never was known to resort to seining, he being a genuine disciple of Izaak Walton; he could sit for hours in silence with never a nibble, occasionally withdrawing his tackle to renew the bait, and meditating upon the perversity of fish-kind. He was said to be well read in law and to be a good adviser in legal complications, but failed sadly when attempting to make a plea before judge or jury. Had he possessed the stamina requisite for the bench,

he might have filled a judicial chair, but, as he was often heard to say, he was too much of a "damphool." He filled for a time the offices of prosecuting attorney and county surveyor, but abler men crowded him out. His family finally became separated and after a precarious struggle for a living as a book agent he finally ended his days in the County Infirmary, deserted by all of his kindred.

When the county seat was removed from Willshire to Van Wert, each of the officers had little difficulty in transporting all his books and papers in a pair of saddle-bags at most, and I have heard my father say, that having no horse or saddle-bags, he easily carried on foot for the entire 16 miles the effects of the recorder's office, wrapped in a bandana handkerchief.

Until the building of the first frame Court House in 1840, the offices were scattered all over the village, and even later, while he held office, my father as a matter of convenience kept the county records at his home, where his elder children soon learned to help him materially in the work.

E. R. Wells did not long enjoy the monopoly of the cobbler's trade in the village, and probably did not have any regrets when Isaac Daugherty, a brother of Mrs. Samuel M. Clark, with his mother came to town and opened a shop near the Clark tavern. Being a skillful artisan, Mr. Daugherty soon got the most of the trade, although Jack Roach also worked some at the trade, dividing his time between that and shingle making. Daugherty built a cabin on Jackson street near where the Pennsylvania Depot now is, where he lived with his mother until he married Lydia McDonald some years later. As shoe-making did not occupy his time fully, he was elected constable and filled that office several years satisfactorily. I remember one occasion, when he was worsted by Bill Myers



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, VAN WERT
(Third Ward School Building)



FIRST WARD SCHOOL BUILDING, VAN WERT



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, DELPHOS



WESTERN OHIO NORMAL SCHOOL, MIDDLEPOINT

a thievish character, whom the constable had arrested some three miles south of Van Wert. When crossing the creek near the present City Hall, his prisoner caught him off his guard, dealt him a blow and "skedaddled" to parts unknown, although Daugherty's cries for help aroused the whole populace, who joined in a hot pursuit of the culprit. Bill was afterward apprehended and fined or imprisoned, which probably taught him that the way of the transgressor was a hard one, and he married and settled down to earn a living, dying at rather an early age and leaving a wife to support herself and four children at the wash tub.

A log jail was built the same year that the Court House was erected, the logs being squared to fit tightly together, while small, grated windows afforded ventilation and light. A few years later, a two-story frame was added for a sheriff's residence, and the jail served as calaboose also for the village, so that it was seldom without an occupant.

About the most notorious "bruiser" and all-round tough in the community was Sam Maddox, who lived west of town a few miles. He never was known to neglect an opportunity to fill his hide with "bug juice" when making his periodical visits in town, and he seldom left without a fight or two. On one occasion he came to town singing some couplets he had composed reflecting upon a neighbor, who was accused of appropriating and slaughtering hogs with another man's mark on them. I recall this much

"Old Solomon Scissors' mouth didn't mean to stay.
But he stole so many hogs, he couldn't get away."

"Big Spencer Pouchfoot, the young lazy whelp,
Had nothing to do but go to the woods and help."

Sam had a brother Peter, who was decidedly the worst stammerer or stutterer I ever heard, and to witness the poor fellow's at-

tempts to make himself understood was both amusing and pathetic. He seldom was able to speak an intelligent word until he had nodded his head and stamped his foot awhile, meanwhile trying all the consonants of the alphabet one after the other before he could determine which one he wanted. When he finally blurted out a word, he had the same struggle to speak the next, so that only an expert linguist could understand his gibberish at all.

Two strikingly familiar figures were the brothers Joshua and Isaiah Shaffer, of temporary residence in early Van Wert, where they first worked at repairing wagons. Soon tiring of that, they took up wild land in Hoaglin township. They were twins, I think, or as near alike as twins, both being of the same build, of medium height, very dark, and each wearing a full beard, black as jet, as were their long, unkempt locks. I think they farmed in partnership, their team consisting of a yoke of black bulls, which were broken to ride; hence it was quite a common sight to see the Shaffer brothers ride into the village bullback, as unconcerned as you please, their slouch hats turned up fore and aft most comically. Like most of their class, the Shaffer brothers only remained a few years in the vicinity of Van Wert. Having cleared a few acres, thus making their holdings more desirable than wild land, they sold out for enough to take them and their families farther West, where the same routine was probably followed, they being virtually members of the advance guard of the army of civilization which was gradually taking the place of the aboriginal tribes of the forest.

In those days Indians of the Wyandot tribe frequently visited the village, bringing with them furs and pelts of wild animals secured in the deep forest everywhere sur-

rounding the new county seat. Their peltries found a ready sale in the stores at fixed market prices, so that in the then prevailing scarcity of money furs became a medium of exchange to a considerable extent. The Wyandots, who came from the Sandusky Plains in Wyandot and Crawford counties, were as a rule civil and peaceable, but care had to be exercised in selling them intoxicants or trouble was sure to arise. At one of their camps a few miles east of town an Indian was killed in a drunken fight and his grave at the roadside enclosed with a rail pen was an object of curiosity for years. The murderer was brought to town and confined in the log jail for a lengthy period. As he became acquainted with the people, he became quite popular, was allowed considerable liberty outside, often taking part in athletic games and never attempted to escape. When his tribe went westward, seeking better hunting grounds, the prisoner was allowed to go with his people to the far West and it is hoped became a good Indian eventually. In cold weather these Indians were wont to ask the privilege of sleeping in my father's kitchen, wrapped in their blankets before the large fireplace. These requests were usually granted. After disposing of their peltries, the Indians would invest the proceeds mostly in provisions and clothing but often bought knickknacks that struck their fancy, and one of my boyish impressions was that of two stalwart bucks, stalking along the village street, each with a boy's jew's-harp trying to their great delight to invoke melodious strains. Indian boys frequently accompanied the hunting parties and with their bows and arrows would often shoot for coins placed on edge a rod or two distant, thus exciting us village lads until it became our highest ambition to possess a bow and arrow and emulate their

feats. In mild weather their wigwams were pitched wherever night found them, one favorite camping ground being not far from a famous spring near the present residence of P. B. Cupp. This spring was probably known to the Indians for ages before our arrival and when discovered by the white pioneers was cunningly concealed with a covering of bark. For a considerable time it furnished the early settlers their principal water supply, and was used until the construction of the Jackson street sewer tapped its source, when the fountain dried up forever.

Good wells, however, in those early days were easily dug anywhere along the Sugar Ridge only a few feet in depth. Off the ridge it was necessary to dig the wells deeper, but rarely was it necessary to go more than 40 feet and seldom more than 20, to obtain a good supply of water. Pumps were made of logs bored in sections of convenient length and joined together, the most noted pump-makers being Peter and John Frysinger, of Willshire township. A majority of the wells were fitted with a pole and sweep or a windlass to draw the water. Bricks were seldom used for walling wells, a frame curb, surrounded with puncheons, all being split out of trees in proper form, being the most common method of preventing the wells from caving in, besides furnishing a convenient mode of descent when necessary to enter the well.

Thomas R. Mott conducted the first general store, I think, in Robert Gilliland's log building, east of Market street. Mott was very tall and thin and a general favorite with all. His brother Samuel, of St. Marys, often visited him here, coming as a lawyer to attend court. He always came with his pockets full of peanuts for the rising generation, and with them at least became no less popular than his

brother Tom. A son of his of the same name became colonel of an Ohio regiment in the War of the Rebellion, I believe.

Tom Mott only remained in the village a few years when he sold, I believe, to Walter Buckingham, who built where the Davies Block now stands and conducted a general store for many years.

A few rods to the eastward of Buckingham's store, where the Hotel Marsh now stands, an ancient Indian mound was discovered, containing the bones of many warriors, who, perhaps, had fallen in battle long before, as the bones were crumbling to dust when unearthed. An Indian grave, enclosed with logs, was visible on the west side of the creek between the Newcomer and Gleason lots for several years, and I do not remember that it was ever opened. Many arrow-heads, stone axes and knives, gun flints, etc., could be picked up on the village site, showing that it had at least been a favorite resort for Indians, if not a village at some time in the distant past.

My father became acquainted with quite a number of the Wyandot tribe and generally found them honorable and trustworthy, but, as I have said before, if allowed liquor to more than a very moderate extent they became devils incarnate, as many of their white brethren do at the present day. In those days liquors was sold at nearly all hotel bars, exclusively under a license system, but while, during many years of hotel-keeping, my father sold hundreds of barrels over the counter, there was seldom a case of intoxication through his fault. He rarely tasted it himself and did not allow his family to do so. The Indians knew better than to ask "Joe" for a second dram.

One of the conspicuous characters often seen on our village streets was John Heath, then a man of declining age but quite vigorous

withal, who lived near the Mercer County line. He was seldom known in the village by his own name, being called "Gunsmith" by old and young, although he was no mechanic whatever. Being of a jovial, devil-may-care disposition, he became a great favorite in the village, and always made everybody he met as good natured as himself. I remember seeing him often stand at the bar telling his stories with his glass of whiskey untouched before him (unless some of the bystanders managed to inveigle him out of it, which was a not unusual incident), keeping his audience in a roar with his odd expressions and grimaces. He had a fashion of licking his lips with his tongue that was very comical when accompanied by sundry winks as he made some droll remark. When at home, however, it was said he became as dignified as any gentleman of the old school. A relative of mine once by invitation accompanied him home after one of his periodical visits, which usually lasted several days. On the way home he was full of his jokes as usual, pointing out all interesting objects on the way, each of which had a story connected with it. When nearing home, as they came in sight of the house, my uncle remarked, "So there is where "Gunsmith" lives, is it?" Straightening himself up, with the greatest dignity his companion replied, "No sir. That is the residence of Mr. John Heath." And from that moment all levity was banished as long as my uncle remained, which was several days, no one presuming to call him "Gunsmith" about home, and none could surpass in decorum "Mr. John Heath." But the next time he visited the county seat and as long afterward as he continued his visits, all dignity and decorum were for the nonce laid aside and he was "Gunsmith" again, as full of pranks as any over-grown boy.

Outside the village limits the most desir-

able land lay along the Bucyrus and Fort Wayne road, as it had the best natural drainage, which in those days was a great desideratum; hence from Lacy's on the Little Auglaize to Stevenson's on Flat Rock, there was almost a continuous chain of improvements, which soon helped greatly to supply the needs of the villagers, most of whom also cultivated more or less land within and adjacent to the corporate limits, so that the community soon became largely self-sustaining and necessities at least quite moderate in price.

Corn was no less a king in those days than at present, being much easier of cultivation than wheat for primitive farmers, and the returns less disappointing generally. The wheat that was grown had to be taken to distant mills for manufacture into flour, while the corn was frequently ground in hand-mills on the farm or in horse-power mills of very rude and cheap construction.

Van Wert's first industrial venture was a water saw and grist-mill erected by Samuel M. Clark on a site now partly covered by the Cincinnati Northern Railroad shops, the power being obtained by throwing a dam across the creek just below the site of the old spoke factory, from which dam a ditch or race was constructed across the bend of the creek to a basin near the mill site. But the venture was not a success owing to the insufficient water supply. Then steam power was tried, which was also a failure. Clark invested all of his means, which were at most limited, without getting much return, so he gave up the struggle when he saw financial ruin inevitable.

A few years later Luke D. Stage, from Seneca County, bought a farm a half mile below and again dammed the "Jordan." His success, however, was no better than Clark's. It was said that when Stage (who was somewhat given to profanity) was ruined by his

dam, he spelled it by adding an "n." There was one good result, however: the mill dam made for several seasons a capital fishing and swimming pond for the town boys, which was highly appreciated by them at their Saturday vacations, and the backwater extending to the village limits afforded good skating in the winter season for all.

The first building erected for school purposes was built about the year 1842 on a lot adjoining the Wayne Hotel on the east and was constructed of hewn logs with a single room about 20 feet square. The floor and ceiling were of matched lumber and altogether it was as well planned for comfort and convenience as such a building could be. Long desks extended on three sides, behind which the more advanced pupils were seated, while benches in front of the desks provided seats for the younger one and recitation benches for classes. Water was carried in buckets from the village spring not far distant and only a few additional steps were necessary to reach a never-failing supply of willows along the creek bottom, from which "rods of correction" were freely drawn. Among the earlier teachers, some of them teaching several terms, were William McDonald, J. C. Parkinson, George Strother, Rhoda Parkinson and Caleb Roberts, to all of whom the writer went in turn. This building served the village well until increasing population demanded greater facilities for education and resulted in the building of two frame two-story schoolhouses at opposite ends of town on Harrison and Lynn streets, respectively. Prior to the erection of the East and West school buildings, however, a west side school was conducted one or two winters in a vacant log building between Shannon and Wall streets, north of Jackson, the creek being the dividing line east and west. This school was taught by William McDonald and was little

inferior in attendance to J. C. Parkinson's, east of the creek, being made up partly of children from the country nearby, many of whom were nearly grown.

A good natured rivalry naturally existed between the East and West schools, and spelling schools in one or the other sub-districts were of frequent occurrence, as well as athletic contests. One winter in particular, being rather open, was attended with a heavy snowfall, of which the West side "Canadians" took advantage by constructing a snow fort about midway between the two schoolhouses on their side of the creek, and then challenged the "Yankees" to come and take it. The creek being low was frozen over so that crossing could be effected easily and the challenge was promptly accepted, a noon hour being agreed upon as a suitable time when the snow could be easily molded into balls. Both sides prepared a goodly supply of ammunition and lunch being over a signal was given for the assault. As I remember we "Yankees" were too much for the "Canucks" and took the fort, although not without stubborn resistance from our whilom foes, several black eyes and bruised noses attesting the valor of both sides, when school was called at the close of the battle.

In those days as well as the present it was an unwritten law of schools generally that at least one day's vacation should be had when Christmas fell on a school day, but it was not always observed, unless by some hook or crook the teacher could be circumvented. The usual device resorted to both in town and country was that of "barring out the school-master," which was often effectual in keeping him out of the schoolhouse so that he had to consent to the vacation. Such an attempt was made by some of the older pupils of Parkinson's school, when Christmas came and it was

announced that there would be no vacation. Early on Christmas morning, the key having been secured previously, a vigorous hammering was heard at the schoolhouse, and the smaller pupils who were not in the plot were amazed upon reaching the building to find the door locked and the windows fastened down securely. When the teacher appeared, he demanded admittance, which was refused; whereupon, being a resolute man, he went to a neighboring workshop and securing a chisel soon opened a window and gaining admission compelled the garrison to surrender. A neighbor who remonstrated was told to go about his business, and at one time the quarrel nearly resulted in blows, the teacher throwing off his coat in such haste that he tore it nearly in twain. But peace finally prevailed and the teacher, having gained ingress, called the school to order and all was forgiven and apparently forgotten. To restore good feeling, a few pounds of candy were sent for, and acted as a wonderful panacea to our feelings at being deprived of the Christmas holiday.

On such occasions as Christmas much license was taken by Young America that would not be thought of now-a-days. No sooner than the first "peep o' day" appeared, than, stockings having been duly invoiced as to their contents, notes were compared with neighboring urchins. After a goodly number had congregated, all fell into line for a Christmas raid through the village, visiting every house, which in those days were not numerous, and clamoring for Christmas gifts, until capitulation was made or a point blank refusal received, which was rare indeed. On one raid of that description, we met the village doctor (Lenox), who being a good deal of a wag took the crowd into Cook's grocery and ordered that they be given all the cider they wanted. As the cider was well fermented, the result was quite a number

of boozy kids who never forgot *that* Christmas treat.

Physicians of that early period were "few and far between" and instead of the modern automobiles or storm-proof phaetons, now so common, they were forced to ride horseback in making distant calls, which frequently took them to all parts of the county and to almost inaccessible places. Dr. Philip John Hines was *par excellence* the pioneer of his profession and must have had wonderful vitality to endure the hardships as long as he did. I remember that at one time it was thought he would not long survive, but a period of rest and recuperation soon restored him. Dr. John Lenox then came from Sidney and formed a partnership with Dr. Hines and both had plenty to do, Lenox finally breaking down completely, and going to an untimely grave as a result of the professional hardships he underwent. In those early days doctors were not as numerous as now, and not all who practiced were able to show their diplomas, and would properly be called "quacks."

About the year 1842 a man by the name of John F. Gabby arrived in the village, and being a tanner by trade started a tanyard, about where is now the Anderson piano factory, constructing several vats; but he failed to make a success of the undertaking and was forced to abandon the business, moving away soon afterward. The next venture of the kind was made by Thomas Uncapher, who was the owner of a considerable tract of land outside the present city limits at the intersection of the Willshire and Rockford roads. It was conducted by him a number of years until his death. About 1856 Britton & Ginter established a tannery where is now Rupright's tile and hay yard, and soon afterward Clippenger & McKim started one on South Walnut street. Both did considerable business, but were finally abandoned,

as outside competition became much too strong.

The first steam sawmill in Van Wert was built by William Parkinson about 1845 west of the old Van Wert cemetery on the lot occupied now by W. M. Smith's residence. A year or two later Joseph Gleason and Thomas R. Kear built one on West Jackson street, near the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway bridge, to which was later added a grist-mill, when Kear became owner, but lack of capital prevented its completion and he sold it to Dr. William Smith, who later formed a partnership with William Gaskill and for a few years operated both industries. The Ziegler brothers next built a sawmill north of the old Van Wert Lumber Company's plant.

The first brick-yard was established by Samuel M. Clark where now stands the Cincinnati Northern shops, but it was only operated two or three years, owing to the difficulty of getting the right kind of clay for the purpose. The next yard was started by Jacob C. Parkinson on South Walnut street, which supplied brick for the greater part of the county for several years, after which Thomas L. Lechew started one near the Oil Well Supply Company's sheds on Center street, afterward removing to South Shannon street, and later to a site south of the Fair Grounds, where Rupright Brothers bought and continued the business. A yard was also started in "Kear-town" by the Steinmetzes and brick were generally made at tile works all over the county, while every village that sprang up had its brick-yard, several farmers burning their own brick at home when requiring large quantities.

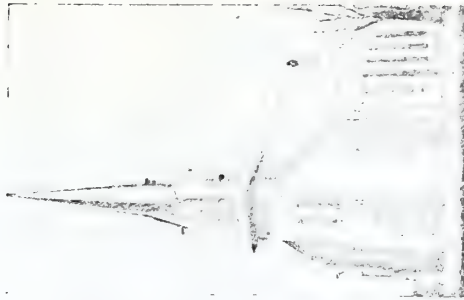
A tile-yard was first started by John and Aaron Tucker on South Shannon street, and what is now known as Leeson avenue was for years called the "Tile Factory road" or "Tile street" from the old tile works located near its intersection with Shannon street. Rupright



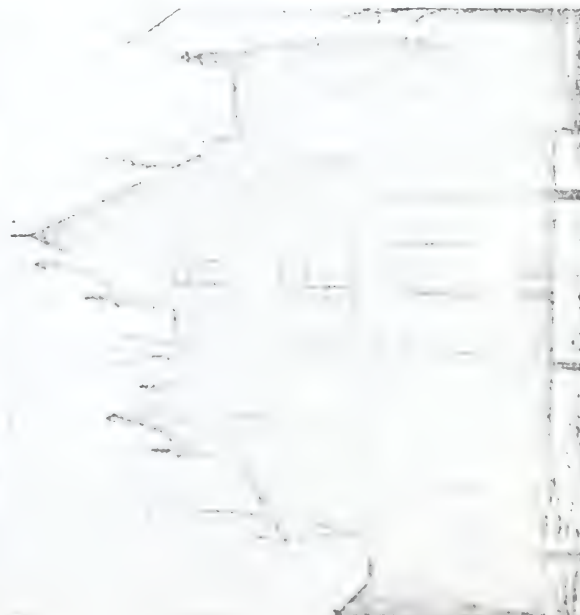
VIEW IN THIRD WARD PARK, VAN WERT



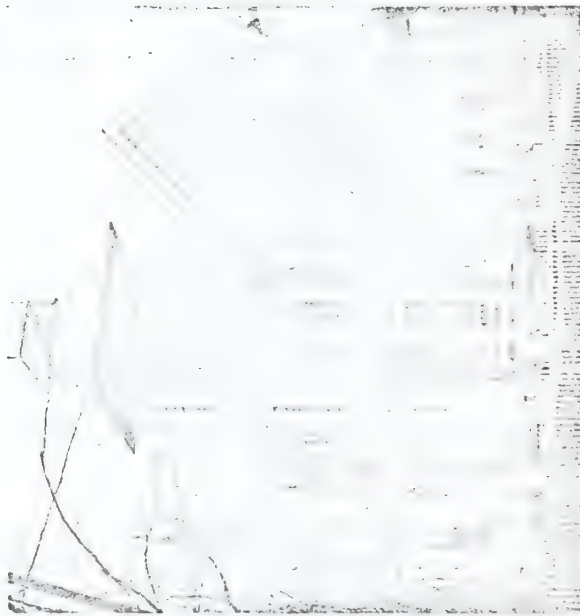
RESIDENCE OF T. S. GILLILAND, VAN WERT



EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH,
HARRISON TOWNSHIP



RESIDENCE OF W. T. HUGHES, VAN WERT



RESIDENCE OF S. B. HERTZ, VAN WERT



TRINITY M. E. CHURCH, DELPHOS

Brothers next bought the old Malick tannery and converted it into a tile mill where their present city yard is. As the demand for tile soon became enormous, yards were soon established all through the county, it being demonstrated that nearly all soil in the county was greatly benefited by underground drainage, the exception being a comparatively narrow strip running through the county, east and west, known as the Sugar Ridge, which possesses a gravelly subsoil. Prior to the introduction of tile, various shifts were resorted to, many using timber for under-drains, and some a subsoil or mole plow, which opened in the clay subsoil a channel for drainage that lasted until closed finally by deep freezing. All such makeshifts were abandoned soon after the manufacture of drain tile began. Thousands of dollars worth are now buried beneath the soil of Van Wert County, but they return rich dividends to the investor, who thereby greatly increases his chances in raising crops.

The first settler west of town was Daniel Cook, who had built the house my father had purchased, and who, after having sold out, had built a cabin outside of the corporate limits, on the site of the Burt residence on West Main street, where he continued to reside until his death, although conducting a grocery for some time on the northwest corner of Main and Washington streets. A brother-in-law of Cook's, George McManima, took up land north of Cook, his cabin standing on Burt street near where the Samuel Miller residence is situated. Later on, David Fisher, another brother-in-law, built on a tract west of Cook where the Dix residence now stands, afterwards erecting the frame residence now owned by James Fost-naught. Elias Evers had opened a farm afterward owned by Esquire Hough, while Peter, John and Samuel Maddox owned farms farther west along the Fort Wayne road, the last

named settler living for some time where now stands the Wells homestead, on the west bank of the creek which once bore his name, but which is now known as Hoaglin Creek, while the next stream east is called Maddox Creek. Evers had a good-sized hand-mill to grind corn into meal, and when not needed for the use of his large family the mill was kept busy by his neighbors far and near, there being but few mills in the county at that time.

My uncle, Stephen Gleason, who lived near the southwest corner of Pleasant township in the woods, used to tell of the task he had soon after the Gleason families settled there, when the teams had been sent back to Perrysburg, then the head of navigation on the Maumee, for the household goods, which had been shipped by lake vessels. Having for breadstuff a goodly store of corn, it had to be taken to the Evers hand-mill, about four miles distant, to be ground. This he had to do by packing it on his shoulders, and there being four families to supply it took a trip every day.

North of town, where Brough Johnson now resides, lived William Thorn, a brother of Jacob, Benjamin and Sally Thorn, and a few miles further north were a few scattered settlers, among whom I recall the Taylors, Shaffers, Hagermans, Barleens, Speelers and Beamers. Many of the early settlers had to eke out a livelihood by hunting and trapping, as well as protect their domestic animals from the ravages of wild beasts. I remember that the wolves often howled in the outskirts of the then village where now stands some of the city's most pretentious residences. One day William Thorn caught one in a steel trap, and brought it to town alive for exhibition. William Thorn, like most of the pioneer settlers, opened a sugar camp near where the pumping station now stands and his successor, William Jones, worked

it also for a number of years, maple sugar and syrup being staple articles and much lower in price than now, although inferior in quality, but indispensable withal. Southwest of town a couple of miles William Johns opened the farm now owned by M. Woodruff, Jacob Johns also settling near his cousin about the same time, while Lyman S. Wells lived on the next place west along the Willshire road, Solomon Farnam and William Davis and Elisha Wells living still further west, the last three owning tracts of land cornering at the intersection of the Willshire and Decatur roads, while about two miles further on the Willshire road was the Gleason settlement.

South of town about four miles, on what was called the Shanesville road, Thomas Thorn, another brother of those previously named, opened what is now the Joseph Custer farm, while about two miles east along Town Creek, where is now Stump's Crossing, Daniel Hipshire lived with his numerous family. William Cavett was the nearest settler on the Greenville road and Thomas Gilliland on the Jennings, most of these families sending their older children to village schools, which were then not overcrowded. Among those who thus attended the Van Wert schools during winter terms, I remember that Thomas and Charles Gilliland, Ira Cavett, Augustus Bronson and Smith Miller, all of whom that are living being now grandfathers or great-grandfathers presumably, in those days thought little of walking two or three miles night and morning to get the rudiments of education. Spelling contests were frequent during the long winter evenings and were eagerly participated in by pupils of all ages in town and countryside alike. I recall my great elation in one of these spelling schools, when I downed the village doctor (Hines) on "squirrel," which he spelled in the most ridiculous way imaginable, when he

and I were the last to stand up. The teacher at that time was the Doctor's future wife, Relief Morse, who was one of the earliest teachers; her brother, John G. Morse, owned a farm 10 miles west on the Ridge road in Tully township. About the best known of the country school teachers' was my father's sister, Clarissa Gleason, who like Miss Morse had grown up in New York State, was well educated in common branches, and was much in demand in all the country neighborhoods of the county, both winter and summer. No collegiate course was needed in those days to qualify teachers for the backwoods, a knowledge of the "Three R's" being all they were expected to impart, while the salaries were most meagre, the country teacher being expected to "board 'round" among the patrons of the school and sometimes had to accept various commodities in payment of her salary. I remember one instance in particular, when my aunt was induced to accept a rifle as at least a part of her compensation, and she had considerable difficulty in finding a purchaser for it afterward.

John C. Richey, a tailor by trade, came to Van Wert in the early '40's and built a frame house near where the Pennsylvania passenger station now stands, where he followed his occupation successfully for some years, finally removing to Iowa. He had three children—two sons, named Samuel and Joshua, and a daughter Martha—who were schoolmates of mine for a period. It was said of the youngest boy "Josh," that one day he was found digging near a stable very intently and apparently too busy to reply to a query as to his object. It being noticed that his cheeks bulged out in an unusual manner, he was asked what he had in his mouth; with a laborious effort he impatiently mumbled out "Wurms fo' bait," and went on with his digging. When out of school in the summer time, the village lads would line

the edges of the long corduroy road from Jefferson street to the Town Creek bridge, fishing for sunfish in various excavations which were generally full of water, and angle worms were at a premium. From the interstices between the logs, water snakes often emerged to sun themselves and were a terror to barefoot boys, although no one was ever known to have been bitten by them. The favorite fishing place, however, was the "Old Fishing Hole," which was located near the north end of Shannon street, and was resorted to by young and old for fishing and bathing purposes, being the deepest hole known along Town Creek. While no one was known to have been drowned in it, parents were generally afraid to allow very young boys to bathe in it unless older boys were present. and I remember one time when two good-sized lads, who were unable to swim, got in beyond their depth and had to be helped out by an older boy. Many a nice string of fish have I drawn from the "Old Fishing Hole," now only a memory (but a blessed one). When I accomplished the feat of swimming across it in my first attempts as a swimmer, I was proud indeed.

Almost at the beginning of the district schools, Sunday-schools were instituted, the teachers being generally those who taught the common schools and the minister, who taught the Bible class as a rule. Probably the most earnest Sabbath-school worker came to Van Wert in the early '40's in the person of Abel R. Strother, a wagon-maker, and a devout Methodist exhorter and worker, of whose family of two sons and two daughters, Mrs. P. Buckingham is the only survivor. There is little question I think that the "power for good" exerted in those days by Abel R. Strother, and his co-workers in church and Sunday-school

has yielded a rich return in placing our city on a higher moral plane than the average.

To the Sunday-school as well as church, came then as now many from the country as far as five or six miles, for country churches and Sunday-schools were few and far between, and only the most unfavorable weather or condition of roads prevented the country contingent from being in their places as regularly as the Sabbath came, summer or winter.

Nearly every summer for several years camp-meetings were held about six miles east of town, which were attended by the majority of the settlers from the whole county around. Many erected pole shanties more or less elaborate, some with floors and some without, of sufficient size to accommodate a whole family and guests if need be, and at camp-meeting time, which was usually after harvest, whole households would resort there for rest, recreation and religious observances, remaining the entire period devoted to the meeting. Usually some great light of the church, a bishop or a presiding elder, would lend his aid at least a part of the time, while other preachers and exhorters from far and near came to the assistance of local workers so that lively sessions were enjoyed and no doubt more good than evil accomplished, although there were always more or less rumors of strange doings circulated, not at all consistent with religion. It was the day when to attain the object sought after the utmost liberty was allowed, when preachers and exhorters would vie with each other in getting the people so wrought up that all conventionality was disregarded utterly and pandemonium reigned. Shouts and imprecations filled the air, while clapping of hands and stamping of feet helped to increase the din. Occasionally the "power" would throw the subject into a fit or trance from which it was

next to impossible to arouse him for hours, and in a few cases the victims became raving maniacs. My parents did not approve of or believe in such manifestations of religion, and rather held aloof, but occasionally visited the camp grounds from curiosity and for diversion. On one of these visits, hearing shouting in one of the shanties, my father approached as near the crowded doorway as he could, and looking in beheld a young woman with the "power" dancing and shouting, presently grabbing her tall brother about the neck and yanking him so heavily that at last he tripped and fell, to the great amusement of the spectators. My oldest sister, a girl of perhaps 9 or 10 years, enjoyed it greatly, thinking it was a fine show, and laughed until she cried. A few years later a new site was chosen near Straughn and meetings were held one or two summers and then discontinued.

The early singing schools used the "buck-wheat" note system for several years until about 1845, when James L. McLeod came one winter and organized a class in rudimental music, using the "round" note system and afterward few winters passed without a singing school being conducted by some one.

The first writing school taught in Van Wert was by a Mr. Bowling about 1848. Being an excellent penman, he made quite a success of it. Unfortunately he fell ill with fever and ague and had to abandon the field finally, much to his disgust.

Few families were fortunate enough to escape this scourge, which was the product of malaria caused by stagnated water in swamp and stream, rendering life in the backwoods far from desirable. Quinine was the almost universal remedy prescribed but many other nostrums were experimented with more or less successfully. One of the remedies recommended "Col" George Marsh may recall, as I

remember his testing it when he was an inmate of my father's hostelry (about 1848), where his father made his home with his family for some months. The ague had invaded the Marsh household and even quinine had failed to cure George of the "shakes," which I remember came on at a certain hour every other day. After trying one remedy after another in vain, some one told him if he would start and run a mile just before the chill was due he would escape it at least for that time. Grasping the idea as a drowning man would a straw, he lost no time in planning its execution and having chosen a course west along the Fort Wayne road to a "mile tree" he next hired two younger boys (I being one) to accompany him, and see that the test was a fair one. I think each was to have a stick of candy if he held out for the entire distance. All being arranged satisfactorily, an even start was made 15 or 20 minutes prior to the schedule time of the ague, and all three did their level best, Marsh running to beat the ague, and his companions to earn their candy. George, having the longest legs and the best wind, easily distanced his competitors and reached the goal ahead by many lengths and was shaking "to beat the band" when we arrived, but had the candy ready for us. After the chill and fever had subsided, we all took the back trail to town, he at least a sadder and wiser boy for the experiment.

Some two or three years after our family came to Van Wert, Samuel Engleright, a blacksmith, took up his residence in the village and became one of its most useful citizens, working at his trade in a shop on West Main street, between Washington and Jefferson (south side). He filled the sheriff's office creditably for some years and with his family was well regarded in the community. He was, I believe of French extraction, which cropped

out occasionally in his speech. While at work at his anvil in his shop across the street, his merry whistle was heard from early morn till night, occasionally interrupted by the entrance of some customer who had to wait until the tune was finished, when the smith would signify his readiness by saying "Which" or "Whaitch!" so heartily that the apparent slight was at once forgotten and forgiven. He taught two of the Clark boys not only his trade but the art of whistling, and Henry Weible, late a prominent citizen of Delphos, was one of Engleright's apprentices. Engleright was always fond of hunting and generally successful as a deer stalker by day, or a coon hunter by night, lighting his way with a torch made of hickory bark. He usually kept two or three "coon dogs" as did many of the settlers, the favorite kind being the long-eared black and tan hound, which by its deep resonant bay when on the trail kept the hunter advised what direction to pursue to head off or keep pace with the quarry. These dogs being fleet of foot also were useful in hunting larger game, such as deer, bears and wolves, so that when sold they frequently brought a good price for their good points.

With a little shame I confess to having had a part in a piece of bare-faced deception, which gave our good blacksmith not a little trouble. One Saturday morning bright and early in blackberry time, another boy and I sallied forth in quest of berries down the Jennings road where there was a deadening of several acres, thickly grown over with briars and other undergrowth, making an ideal blackberry patch. Two other boys, John Engleright and another, had the same scheme in view, but we arrived first and believing that we had a better right to the spoils concealed ourselves in the thick brush and upon the approach of our rivals set up a series of howls such as would

not discredit real wolves, our object being to stampede the other boys. It "worked" to perfection, and the boys ran as boys "ne'er ran before," until they reached town and the blacksmith shop, where their startling report created no little excitement. All work was suspended and the sturdy blacksmith and a neighbor or two with the dogs and guns were soon on the way to the deadening. Their arrival was made known to us in time to get under cover where we lay undetected, the dogs taking no notice of our presence and the hunters failing to find the "two-legged wolves" after the most energetic beating up of the whole deadening, finally leaving us to finish our picking in peace and content. For obvious reasons we took a different route than usual on our way home, and kept "mum" about the fraud, which so far as I know was never suspected by the victims.

With John F. Dodds in 1837 came William Parent, then single, who afterwards married Barbara Shingledecker and with his aged father, Samuel Parent, who had served in the War of 1812, built their cabin on lot 73 near where is now the Hines drug store, but on the east side of Walnut street. Later William Parent purchased 20 acres of land where Dr. Ainsworth and his mother now reside and made that his home for a number of years, working at anything to which he could turn his hand, burning charcoal for blacksmiths, wood cutting and clearing being some of his avocations.

Possessing a strong tenor voice, he soon became much in demand as a vocalist for Fourth of July and political occasions. When it was known that Bill Parent would sing, there was sure to be a crowd there to hear him. One of his favorite songs was called "The Liberty Tree" and never failed to call forth cheer upon cheer at the end of each stanza. I recall the first verse only:

Columbus, that man of bright genius
Sailed from European shore
With a mind full as clear as bright Venus,
This Western world to explore.
He was the first man to venture the ocean,
This Western land for to see,
To hunt out a place for a nation,
And plant out a Liberty Tree.

In these cultured times such verses are called mere doggerel, but the standard was not very high in the backwoods, while patriotic force burned as bright among the rough woodsmen as anywhere in the land.

Parent had quite a repertoire of similar songs and being of a jovial disposition was al-

ways ready when called upon to sing a song or tell a story. After a few years residence in the village, having a family of boys growing up he purchased a tract of land on the Jennings road and cleared up the farm now known as the Joseph Johnson homestead, where he died.

Another popular singer that I remember was DeLong, who made occasional visits to the village and stopped at my father's tavern, where he was always invited to sing for the crowd that usually gathered there evenings. As I remember, his songs were more of a religious character than Parent's, but always gave delight to his hearers.

CHAPTER XX

INSURANCE COMPANIES

The Central Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company—The Farmers' Mutual Aid Association of Van Wert County.

THE CENTRAL MANUFACTURERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

This company was incorporated on April 7, 1876, under the name of The Van Wert County Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

The company commenced doing business on October 2, 1876, the first officers being as follows: President, J. M. C. Marble; secretary, G. A. Sahlquist; treasurer, John A. Conn; executive committee—J. S. Brumback, J. M. C. Marble and S. Swineford; directors—S. Swineford, A. Conant, J. S. Brumback, A. W. Baker, W. H. Pennell, J. M. C. Marble, A. B. McCurdy, John A. Conn, A. L. Teubner, J. L. Price, Jacob Fox, T. S. McKim, Levi F. Zimmerman and G. A. Sahlquist.

On February 1, 1877, M. L. Purmort was elected secretary of the company and W. H. Hahn, State agent.

On January 9, 1883, J. S. Brumback was elected president of the company and filled the office until the day of his death, December 11, 1897.

On January 9, 1883, Frank W. Purmort was elected assistant secretary of the company.

On February 13, 1885, the name of the company was changed to The Central Manu-

facturers' Mutual Insurance Company, since which time the business has been conducted under this name.

On the 6th of February, 1885, P. A. Montgomery was elected manager of the company.

On January 12, 1887, Frank W. Purmort was elected secretary of the company.

The company does a general business throughout the United States. It makes a specialty of first-class manufacturing plants. It charges a premium for one year in advance and at the end of each year pays to its policy holders such a dividend as it has been able to earn and which is deemed advisable by the board of directors.

The officers of the company on the 1st day of January, 1906, were as follows: President, H. V. Olney; vice-president, J. P. Reed; secretary and treasurer, Frank W. Purmort; directors—O. S. Brumback, Toledo, Ohio; C. A. L. Purmort, Van Wert, Ohio; George R. McConnell, Troy, Ohio; C. M. Purmort, Van Wert, Ohio; and the president, vice-president and secretary of the company who are named above.

The condition of the company on the 1st day of January, 1906, is shown by the following statement:

ASSETS.		
(MARKET VALUE)		
U. S. Government 2 per cent. registered bonds	\$51,867.00	
price)	\$ 51,867.00	
U. S. Government 3 per cent. (market value)	829.00	
First mortgage bonds on real estate (worth more than twice the amount loaned thereon)	128,280.00	
Ohio City, Ohio, drainage bonds	1,200.00	
Van Wert, Ohio, street im- provement bonds	3,460.00	
Pleasant Township, Van Wert.. County, Ohio, bonds	2,800.00	
Interest accrued thereon	2,579.50	
Real estate, office building	18,048.12	
Total Invested Assets	\$208,884.12	\$208,884.12
Cash in Van Wert National Bank	7,580.18	
Cash in office of company	1,155.22	
Premiums in course of collec- tion, not more than three months due	33,349.83	
Cash Items	42,085.23	42,085.23
Total Cash and Bonds		250,969.35
Liability of members to assess- ment		1,022,115.77
Total Assets		\$1,273,085.12
LIABILITIES		
Losses adjusted (estimated)	4,741.96	
Losses registered	3,282.00	
Total Unpaid Losses	8,023.96	
Re-insurance reserve (50 per cent. of gross premiums on risk in force)	139,685.52	
Total Liabilities	147,709.48	147,709.48
Surplus, including members' liabilities	1,125,375.64	
Amount of members' liability ..	1,022,115.77	
Net Cash Surplus		\$ 103,259.87

The total amount the company has at risk is \$15,143,228. The losses paid by the com-

pany since its organization have aggregated \$1,049,576.47; in the same period the cash dividends paid to policy holders amounted to \$229,055.18. The present rate of dividends to policy holders is 25 per cent.

THE FARMERS' MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION OF VAN WERT COUNTY

Is a corporation organized under the act of March 30, 1877, adopted January 16, 1879, as amended May 6, 1882, May 5, 1883, May 3, 1884, May 1, 1886, May 7, 1887, November 28, 1891, November 23, 1893, January 4, 1896, January 4, 1902, and January, 1904.

"The object of the association is to enable the members of the association to insure each other against loss by fire, lightning and other casualties and to enforce any contract or contracts which may by the members be entered into and by which those entering therein agree to be specifically assessed for incidental purposes and for the payment of losses which may occur to any member of such association.

The first meeting called by the farmers of Harrison township for the purpose of organizing a Farmers' Mutual Aid Association, was held at the German schoolhouse in April, 1878, and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, as follows: Abraham Balyeat, J. F. Akom and H. Germann, Jr.

The second meeting was held in May, 1878. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and the following officers elected: President, Abraham Balyeat; secretary, C. F. Germann; treasurer, H. Germann, Jr.; directors—Aaron Hoover, Frederick Geisler and Joseph Larue.

Abraham Balyeat, H. Germann, Jr., J. F. Akom and Peter Kreischer commenced to write insurance and succeeded well near home, but away from Harrison township it was slow

work. Abraham Balyeat and H. Germann, Jr., went to Mercer County, but found only a few farmers that could be convinced that farmers could manage an insurance company at a saving over the rates charged by old line companies.

The first year, after hard work, 157 policies were written, covering risks of \$201,346. It was only after it was demonstrated by experience that the mutual plan of insuring farm property was not only safe but cheaper and that all losses were promptly paid that the public took hold with confidence.

The Farmers' Mutual Aid Association of

Van Wert County is now one among the largest mutual companies in the State of Ohio.

On December 31, 1905, the amount of insurance in force was \$5,437.078; the amount written during the year, \$1,120,369; a gain for the year of \$133,222. The total losses for the year 1905 were \$10,570.26. There are 2,780 members of the association who hold 2,971 policies.

At the annual election on January 6, 1906, the following officers were elected: President, Hon. J. S. Stuckey; secretary, E. V. Walborn; treasurer, H. Germann, Jr.; directors—George Lewis, J. D. Lare and P. M. Wiseman.

CHAPTER XXI

THE BENCH AND BAR OF VAN WERT

The Common Pleas Bench—The Van Wert Bar, Past and Present—The First and Second Murder Trials—Two Anecdotes of the Early Courts.

THE COMMON PLEAS BENCH.

Hon. William L. Helfenstein held the first term of the Court of Common Pleas for Van Wert County at Willshire in 1838, with George B. Holt, of Dayton, as prosecuting attorney. In 1840 Hon. Emory D. Porter was elected; he served until 1844. In 1844 Hon. Myron H. Tilden was elected and on account of some change in the district only served one year on the bench in this county. In 1845 Hon. Patrick G. Goode was elected and served until 1849 when Hon. George B. Way was elected and served until the adoption of the new constitution, by which it was provided that there should be one common pleas judge instead of a president judge and three associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas.

The associate judges that were elected are as follows: 1837, Joshua Watkins, Benjamin Griffin and Oliver Stacy; 1839, Henry Reichard; 1840, John Hill and Joseph Gleason; 1841, Charles Mount; 1843, P. Jacob Hines; 1844, John Tumbleson and John W. Conn; 1845, Jacob M. Harper.

From the adoption of the new constitution in 1851 to the present time, the following have served as judges of the Court of Common

Pleas: 1851, John M. Palmer; 1856, Alexander S. Latty; 1858, Benjamin F. Metcalfe; 1865, O. W. Rose; 1865, James Mackenzie, who served until February, 1879. Edwin M. Phelps, in 1869, was elected an additional judge for the sub-division.

There was a reorganization of the district in 1879. Charles M. Hughes served one year, being followed in 1880 by James H. Day. Twelve years later, in 1892, Hiram C. Glenn went upon the bench to fill out Judge Day's unexpired term, and served until W. T. Mooney, who was elected judge in 1892, took his place. Nine years later Judge Mooney was elected to the district bench, and was succeeded as common pleas judge by S. A. Armstrong, who served until Edward S. Mathias entered upon the duties of the office, to which he had been elected in 1904. In times of vacancy, William D. Davis and Hugh T. Mather also held court in Van Wert County, but neither was regularly assigned.

THE VAN WERT BAR, PAST AND PRESENT.

Of resident lawyers, James Madison Barr was the first, coming to Van Wert in 1842. He served as prosecuting attorney from 1842 until

1845, and practiced in all the courts in the surrounding counties, traveling on horseback on a bay Indian pony that he purchased from James G. Gilliland. The pony was as handsome and as full of life as could be found anywhere, and never seemed to tire. He was admired by everybody, and many high prices were refused for "Selim."

William E. Rose was perhaps the second resident attorney, living and practicing here in 1845. He afterward moved away for several years and then returned.

and 1848 he was elected prosecuting attorney.

In April, 1846, Charles P. Edson and Perin DePuy, partners, came to Van Wert and commenced the practice of the law as a firm. It was not long after putting out their sign that a man called at their office and employed DePuy to take his side of a lawsuit pending before a country justice. The other party happening to meet Mr. Edson on the street employed Edson to take his side of the case. Nothing was said until the next morning. When it came time for



THE FIRST COURT HOUSE, VAN WERT.

(From a drawing by F. P. Edson.)

In May, 1846, S. E. Brown, a resident of Washington township west of Delphos, was prosecuting attorney; a few years later he moved West.

The next in order was R. C. Spears, who came to Van Wert in 1844 a single man and boarded with Joseph Gleason. He owned the lot where the Brumback corner, the First National Bank and the cigar store are; later he sold the lot and bought the Will Young property on South Shannon street. On May 13, 1845, he married Lotisa Spear, the marriage changing only one letter in her name. In 1846

them to start, they found that as partners they had taken both sides of the same case. They concluded to make the best of it. It is said they fought the case as cases were often then fought—by harsh words—and finally one threw an ink bottle at the other. Edson was chosen prosecuting attorney in 1847. DePuy practiced for a few years and then went to California with the "49ers", but returned in a few years. He amassed quite a fortune which he left by will to the School Board for the education of the poor, but with such restrictions that it is only being used to furnish books to those that

are not able to buy them and in some cases clothing.

O. W. Rose, who came about 1847 or 1848 was married to Nancy Slater on January 8, 1849. He practiced for many years and was once mayor of Van Wert. He was elected county recorder in 1848 and was appointed judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1864.

Robert Bruce Encill was another of Van Wert's young attorneys. He came here a young man and built up quite a practice. He married Judith Slater, a sister of Mrs. O. W. Rose, and later moved to Warsaw, Indiana, where he attained considerable distinction. He died there a number of years ago.

James W. Steel was another young man of fine ability that selected Van Wert as a starting place in which to practice his profession. He was well educated, a fine orator and was never at a loss for language. But he was his own worst enemy. He served in the army and after the war moved to Red Wing, Minnesota.

Isaac N. Alexander, a native of the county, entered the practice about 1857 and practiced law with his partner, J. C. Johnston, until the breaking out of the war in 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Company E, 15th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., for three months; at the expiration of his term of service, he raised a company for the 46th Regiment, Ohio Vol. Inf. At the close of the war he ranked as lieutenant-colonel. He again commenced the practice of the law and stood at the head of the profession. He was a member of the constitutional convention in 1872, was mayor of Van Wert in 1876, and was a member of the electoral college that elected Rutherford B. Hayes.

J. C. Johnston, who came to Van Wert in 1857, practiced a few years and then moved to Marion, Ohio.

Israel D. Clark came to Van Wert about 1852 or 1853 as a carpenter. In 1853 he built

the Presbyterian Church at the corner of Main and Harrison streets and the building, a view of which appears on another page, still shows the master work of the builder. After 53 years it is as staunch as when first erected. Mr. Clark afterward studied law. In 1855 he was elected probate judge and in 1864 prosecuting attorney. At the breaking out of the war in 1861, he raised a company (Company E, 15th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf.) for the first three months call. After the expiration of the term of service, he raised a company for the 52nd Regiment, Ohio Vol. Inf., and was promoted to major.

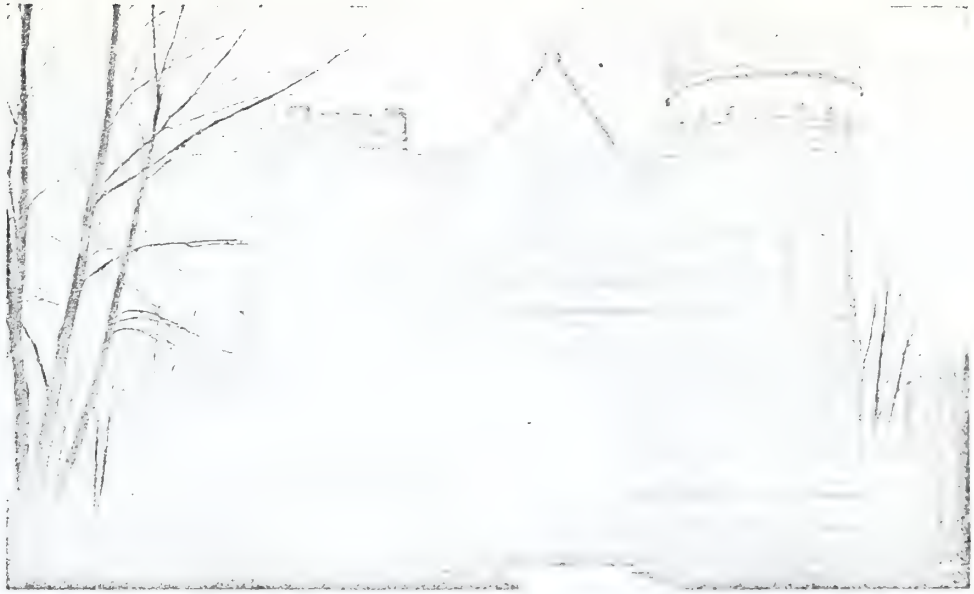
Caleb Roberts was another attorney that came to Van Wert. He taught school and in 1857 was elected prosecuting attorney. At the breaking out of the war in 1861 he volunteered in Company K, 46th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and was promoted to 1st lieutenant. He was killed September 2, 1864, at Lovejoy Station, Georgia.

Sidenham Shaffer, James W. Steel and a Mr. Trouty formed a law partnership under the name of Shaffer, Steel & Trouty. As to the amount of their practice or what became of Shaffer and Trouty, I cannot say.

James L. Price came to Van Wert in 1865, entered upon the practice of the law and in 1868 was elected prosecuting attorney. He enjoyed a lucrative practice and finally moved to Lima, where he was able to get more practice and larger fees. He is now on the supreme bench of Ohio.

Ira P. Shisler came to Van Wert, entered the office of James L. Price, studied law and entered into the practice. In 1874 he was elected prosecuting attorney. In 1882 he was elected mayor of the village of Van Wert. He later moved to Mankato, Minnesota.

W. H. Cunningham came here from Lima and was elected prosecuting attorney in 1878. He soon returned to Lima, where after enjoy-



BRUMBACK LIBRARY, VAN WERT



COURT HOUSE, VAN WERT

ing a lucrative practice he was elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas, which he now holds.

A. J. Porter started in the practice of the law in Van Wert. In 1878 he was elected mayor and in 1880, prosecuting attorney. He soon after moved to Adams County, Indiana.

John Darnell came to Van Wert soon after the War of the Rebellion, in which he had taken part. He preached on Sunday and practiced law during the week, and was a good counsel and an eloquent preacher.

Hiram C. Glenn was raised in Harrison township and in the town of Van Wert, taught school, worked at his trade, that of carpenter and painter, and studied law at all leisure hours. He was admitted to the bar and in 1867 was elected mayor of Van Wert. In 1870 was appointed judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He has enjoyed a lucrative practice and acquired a fair share of this world's goods, and has always been ready to push forward any enterprise for the benefit of Van Wert. A sketch of Judge Glenn appears in the biographical department of this work.

Gaylord M. Saltzgaber came to Van Wert at an early age and attended the schools of the village. At the age of 15 years he enlisted in the Third Ohio Cavalry and served with the company until the close of the war. Returning to Van Wert, he attended school here for a time and then attended school at Poughkeepsie, New York, until 1867 when he began the study of the law with R. B. Encill, of Van Wert. In 1869 he was admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with Col. I. N. Alexander. In 1869 he was elected mayor of Van Wert. He was twice elected State Senator from the 32nd District. He is a member of the firm of Saltzgaber, Hoke & Osborn. They have a large and lucrative practice.

H. Kemper came to Van Wert and entered upon the practice of the law with W. H. Cunningham. Of late years he has turned his attention largely to collections and to abstracting titles, in which line of work he has the reputation of being an expert.

J. W. Beers came to Van Wert from Sidney in 1865, and has been practicing ever since. At present he has his office in his home on South Washington street and Maple avenue.

C. W. Cowen came to Van Wert in 1865 and enjoyed a good practice and the good-will of all. He afterward removed to Cincinnati.

J. B. Brodnix commenced the practice of the law in Van Wert in 1873 and afterward located in Paulding.

Hugh E. Allen studied law with Hon. H. C. Glenn and was admitted to the bar on October 14, 1897. He formed a partnership with Judge Glenn, June 16, 1898, under the firm name of Glenn & Allen and remained in that firm until June 16, 1902. He then practiced alone until March 13, 1905, when he formed a partnership with William H. Dailey, under the firm name of Dailey & Allen.

William H. Dailey graduated from the Van Wert High School in 1886 and from the University of Michigan in 1889. He was admitted to practice in Ohio in 1889 and has been in the practice in Van Wert ever since, standing to-day at the head of the bar. A sketch of Mr. Dailey appears in the biographical department of this work.

Clement V. Hoke studied law in Logan, Ohio, prior to June, 1886, being admitted to practice by the Supreme Court of Ohio in that month. He came to Van Wert, September 20, 1886, from Attica, Seneca County, Ohio, where he was born and raised.

M. H. Osborn was raised in Van Wert County on a farm, studied law at the Univer-

sity of Michigan, from which he was graduated in 1893. He was admitted to the bar in Ohio in March, 1903.

H. G. Richie studied law at his own home without an instructor or law school education, seeking out the principles on which the laws were founded and making himself familiar with them, never leaving a subject until he felt he had fully mastered it. He concluded his studies before admission in the early part of 1877 and was admitted under the old practice by the District Court at Findlay, Ohio, on the 10th of April, 1877. He has been successful as a lawyer as is shown by the fact that clients that employed him in his early practice have still retained him whenever the services of an attorney were required and they were largely those that had known him from boyhood.

H. W. Blachly read law with Hon. A. L. Sweet from March 4, 1884, to May 6, 1886, when he was admitted to the bar. In June, 1886, he entered into partnership with Judge Sweet, which continued until 1893, when he formed a partnership with W. H. Dailey. This partnership continued about two years when the firm was dissolved and Mr. Blachly practiced alone until March 1, 1899, when he formed a partnership with Capt. E. S. Mathias. This partnership was in existence until the end of the 1904, when it was dissolved through Captain Mathias being elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In March, 1905, Mr. Blachly entered into partnership with Oscar Priddy and Otis W. Kerns, with whom he is now connected. In addition to the practice of the law, Mr. Blachly has served on the State Canal Commission since April, 1900, being twice appointed by Governor Nash and also appointed by Governor Herrick.

O. A. Balyeat read law under the direction of H. G. Richie from October, 1894, to October,

1897. He passed the bar examination at Columbus, Ohio, October 14, 1897, and went into active practice at once, occupying office room with his preceptor until January, 1901, when he formed a partnership with the late G. L. Marble, which continued until the latter's death, when he formed a partnership with H. L. Conn, which has continued until the present time.

J. C. Allen was for many years a practitioner at the bar in Van Wert.

Capt. Edward S. Mathias came to Van Wert, Ohio, in March, 1894, and was admitted to the bar in June, 1895. He was elected city solicitor in April, 1896, and was re-elected in 1898. He formed a partnership with H. W. Blachly upon being mustered out of the volunteer service in March, 1899, which partnership continued until he assumed his duties as judge of the Court of Common Pleas, to which he was elected in 1904. Judge Mathias is a graduate of the Ohio Normal University at Ada, taught school in Putnam County and served as captain during the Spanish-American War.

W. S. Johnson began the study of the law with Saltzgaber & Glenn in 1885, and was connected with their office for three years. In June, 1889, he graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan with the degree of Bachelor of Laws and was admitted to practice the same month by the Supreme Court of Ohio. His preliminary education was received at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, and the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio.

Arthur C. Gilpin was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, October 20, 1871, and came to Van Wert County with his parents in October, 1872. He lived on farms near Van Wert until 1884, when the family came to town. He attended the public schools of Van Wert and graduated from the High School in May, 1889.

He was employed as a clothing clerk for a number of years and read law under the tutorship of Levi X. Jacobs and Hugh E. Allen. During the Spanish American War he served as 1st sergeant of Company D, Second Regiment, Ohio Infantry, U. S. Volunteers. He resumed the study of law after being mustered out of the service and was admitted to the bar on June 20, 1900.

Otis W. Kerns began the study of the law at the Ohio Normal University at Ada in August, 1896. In June, 1897, he continued the study under the preceptorship of H. W. Blachly, of Van Wert, during the winter season until 1901, when early in the year he again entered the Ohio Normal University and graduated with the law class in June of that year. The same month and year he was admitted to the bar. In August, 1901, he formed a partnership with Oscar Priddy under the firm name of Priddy & Kerns, with offices in Rooms 1 and 2, Albright Block. This partnership lasted until March 1, 1905, when Mr. Priddy and Kerns formed a partnership with H. W. Blachly, under the firm name of Blachly, Priddy & Kerns, with offices in the McConahay Block, opposite the Court House.

H. L. Conn began the study of the law in 1890 and was admitted to the bar in 1894. Further information will be found in his biographical sketch published elsewhere in this volume.

THE FIRST MURDER TRIAL.

In the May (1840) term of the Court of Common Pleas for Van Wert County, Emory D. Potter, president judge, and Benjamin Griffin, Joseph Gleason and John Hill, associate judges, an Indian was tried for a murder committed January 10, 1840, in Washington township, north of what was known as the Stacy

farm, a property now owned by a Mr. Tusig. The Indian's name was Tawohesackwaugh, and his victim's name was Sacheewaugh; both were Wyandots.

The grand jury that indicted was composed of Josiah Foster, William R. Kear, Jacob M. Harpster, Peter Bullenbaugher, David Major, William Johns, Lyman S. Wells, Asabel Burright, James Major, William Glenn, George Leslie, Daniel M. Beard, Joseph D. Moore, Orrin Burrigh and Samuel Moore.

The charge was that with a knife of the value of 25 cents he inflicted a wound on Sacheewaugh in the neck from which the latter died in four days. The names of the jurors that tried Tawohesackwaugh were Asa Cook, Moses Orchard, James Gilliland, Stephen Gleason, Ansel Blossom, Thomas Pollock, Adam Gilliland, Cyrenius Elliott, William Hill, Thomas Thorn, Archibald Priddy and John G. Morse. They brought in a verdict of manslaughter and he was sentenced to the penitentiary for five years. He was afterward pardoned to go West with the tribe. The writer recollects that his wife and mother came to the Gilliland house and said that they were glad that he was sent to the penitentiary and that when he came out he would be a good Indian.

There were over 100 Indians present at the trial. There was much opposition to trying the Indian by the whites, most of the people believing it best to turn him over to the tribe to be dealt with. His family took the name of Solomon. A number of them remained at Upper Sandusky and are buried in the old mission graveyard.

THE SECOND MURDER TRIAL.

In the May (1845) term of the Court of Common Pleas for Van Wert County, Patrick G. Goode, president judge, and Jacob M.

Harper, Daniel M. Beard and John Tumbleson, associate judges, the grand jury, composed of Samuel Sheets, Jesse Atkinson, Samuel Elder, Peter Frysinger, David Major, Jr., Simon Wyant, Abraham Zimmerman, William Parent, Charles Germann, Moses R. Adams, Samuel Moore, Robert Miller, Samuel Foster, Samuel Engleright and John A. Conn, brought in an indictment for willful murder against Daniel Magrath, who was accused of murdering Michael Connell. The indictment states that the murder was committed with a cheap knife worth about 12 cents and that 15 mortal wounds were found upon the body. Although so desperately wounded, Connell lived from July 7, 1844, when the stabbing occurred, to the 10th.

The facts in the case were that it was a drunken fight in which both were wounded. Magrath had eight stabs on his person, none of which was severe. The only witnesses were a family of Golivers that kept a kind of shanty boarding house and seemed to be bitter against Magrath.

The defendant, through his attorney, William E. Rose, demanded to be tried in the Supreme Court of the State, which then held court in each county. A change of venue to Allen County was secured, and Attorney Rose demanded that the defendant be tried there. The prosecuting attorney, James M. Barr, entered a *nolle prosequi* on the indictment, had the defendant reindicted in Van Wert County and brought back here for trial. Rose argued that his client had secured a change of venue on account of the prejudice existing and the court had no right to try him in this county. The court overruled him and he withdrew from the case. At the August term of the Supreme Court, Daniel Magrath was found by the jury guilty of murder in the first degree and was sentenced by the court to be hanged on the first

Friday in October, 1845. The decree was signed by M. Birchard, chief judge.

On the day appointed by the court, Daniel Magrath was hanged on a scaffold, erected on the west side of the jail, the execution being in public. A high board fence was built around the scaffold, but this was torn down the night before the execution. Thomas R. Kear was sheriff. The day of the execution people came 30 to 40 miles on horseback to witness it. Strong men wept like children, when the trap was sprung and he struggled for some time, as his neck had not been broken. There was a division of opinion, many believing that the verdict was too severe. The body was taken south of town, buried and a tree chopped on the grave, but the body was exhumed that night by the doctors.

TWO ANECDOTES OF THE EARLY COURTS.

Cyrenius Elliott was one of Van Wert's early settlers, coming here from Mercer County. He was at one time county surveyor. He was always full of life and generally ready to perpetrate a practical joke on any of his acquaintances. H. S. Knapp in his "History of the Maumee Valley" tells the following:

At the April term of court in Mercer County in 1847, a hog case was tried before Judge Patrick G. Goode. The arguments of the case had been concluded, the charge to the jury made, the case submitted to the jury within a few minutes of the regular dinner hour, and they had been ordered to their room. The court then adjourned until after dinner.

Within a few minutes, one of the jurymen Cyrenius Elliott (then a young, rough-hewn specimen of manhood but withal possessing more than average ability and coolness) entered the room of the hotel where the judge was seated.

The judge rewarded Elliott with some surprise and excitedly asked, "What are you doing here? Have the jury agreed." "Jury agreed," hissed Elliott. "You must be a simpleton to ask the question. You must understand, Pat Goode, that I don't believe much in the divine rights of Kings or in the infallibility of Courts when run by such men as yourself. Your right way was to have let us have our dinner before sending us into the jury room knowing as you must, if you had good sense, that jurors have stomachs and bowels as well as judges and lawyers."

The judge in a towering rage threatened that his first business immediately after the re-assembling of the court would be to visit upon Elliott the severest penalties of the law, to which Elliott, with much *sang froid*, responded, that it was not necessary for him to wait until after the meeting of the court to make a more flagrant Muggins of himself than he had already shown himself to be.

Upon the reopening of court, however, the judge reflecting that the law was inadequate to punish the recalcitrant jurymen as he thought they deserved, made disposition of the case as explained below in the *Mercer County Standard*:

"Abraham Miller of this place happened to be one of the famous 12. When the court re-assembled in the afternoon, the judge, after censuring those of the jurymen who had appeared in the courtroom for their conduct, and after some hesitation as to what disposition to

make of the case, ordered it to be recorded which closed as follows: 'And the jury, not being able to agree, dispersed; and the case was continued to the next term.' The next term the court ordered that the defendant go hence without day and so the matter has slept until 1872 when Mr. Miller was ushered into the jury box by the sheriff, whereupon Mr. LeBlond, who was attorney for the defendant in 1845, objected to him on the grounds that a man couldn't serve on two juries at the same time.

"Judge Mackenzie intimated that a man who was unable to make up his mind in 24 years was hardly competent to sit on a jury. However, Miller was permitted to remain until the final disposition of the case. But the fact still remains that the jury which went out in 1847 has never returned into court."

While Patrick G. Goode was on the bench, John H. Morrison was trying a case in which he had taken more than ordinary interest. After the evidence had closed, he felt that the cause of his client was lost and opened his address to the court and jury with the following declaration: "May it please the court; by the perjury of witnesses, the ignorance of the jury, and the corruption of the court, I expect to be beaten in this case." Judge Goode turned to Morrison and inquired. "What is that you say, Mr. Morrison?" The latter promptly replied, "That is all I have to say on that point," and proceeded with his remarks to the astonished jury.

CHAPTER XXII

PHYSICIANS OF VAN WERT

Dr. P. J. Hines was the first physician to settle in Van Wert. He studied with Dr. Thomas Miller, of Washington, D. C., and received his degree from the Baltimore Medical College in 1837. He came from Frederick County, Maryland to Van Wert, November 30, 1838. In 1849 he went to California and remained two years. He was elected county auditor and to the Legislature and was at one time postmaster.

Dr. John W. Lenox came to Van Wert in the early '40's. He had a large practice throughout the country, often traveling 20 miles to see a patient. He rode day and night and at a gait that no one could keep up with. In November, 1849, he married Susan Short, now Mrs. Davis Johnson.

Dr. James Burson came here about 1842 and was elected county treasurer in 1845. He died the same year.

Dr. John Q. Adams was one of the early physicians, coming here about 1850. He had a large practice but finally sold his practice and moved West.

Dr. C. W. Bowland came about 1853 and bought Dr. J. Q. Adam's practice but only stayed a few years and moved to Columbus.

Dr. B. A. Welch was one of the early practitioners.

Dr. R. A. N. Bee was a homeopathic physician, but he was here when chills and fevers

were prevalent, which required more heroic treatment than his system provided for.

Dr. D. K. Galliher practiced here for a number of years.

Dr. Hugh C. McGavren practiced many years here and at Shanes Crossing (now Rockford).

Dr. William Osborn came here from Jennings Prairie and practiced a number of years. He was also the first physician at Delphos.

Dr. Kyle was one of the early physicians.

Dr. J. H. Finefrock practiced here a few years.

Dr. John Blecker practiced at Van Wert for a number of years. He volunteered and was promoted from the ranks to 2nd lieutenant and was badly wounded at the battle of Stone River, Georgia.

Dr. C. B. Stemen came here in 1866 and in 1867 was appointed the first superintendent of the County Infirmary, which position he held for three years and then returned to Van Wert and took up the practice again. A few years later he moved to Fort Wayne and has now a world-wide reputation as a physician and surgeon and also as an author of text-books.

Dr. George Stemen practiced here a short time.

Dr. Sherrick practiced here a short time.

Dr. Chapin came here about 1856 and practiced until in the '60's.

Dr. Reid was a practitioner here for many years.

Dr. William Smith was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, in 1822. In 1846 he volunteered at the first call for troops and was elected 2nd lieutenant and served during the war with Mexico. On his return, he took up the study of medicine and practiced in Richland County until 1856, when he came to Van Wert. At the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, he enlisted as 2nd lieutenant and rose through all the grades to lieutenant-colonel of the 46th Ohio Infantry. Returning to Van Wert, he again took up the practice of medicine.

Dr. J. W. Underhill, a homeopathist, came here in the '60's and practiced for a number of years.

Dr. Charles Emerson came here and practiced a few years and then turned his attention to banking.

Dr. W. N. Longworth came to Van Wert in 1852 and practiced for 20 years or more.

Dr. Webster was a practitioner here.

Dr. Adam N. Krout was a practitioner here for many years.

Dr. W. H. Christopher practiced here for a number of years and then moved to Indiana.

Dr. Timothy Hawkins came here from Mercer County, and remained several years.

Dr. John K. Woods came here from Mendon shortly after the close of the war, where he had served as surgeon, and practiced for many years.

Dr. B. F. Cessna practiced here for a num-

ber of years and then moved to Kenton, in Hardin County.

Dr. Georgiana C. Glenn practiced here for about 10 years and was very successful, especially with women and children.

Dr. George W. McGavren has been one of our most successful physicians and surgeons and would not be allowed to quit if he wanted to.

Dr. W. C. Hastings practiced for a number of years and then moved to Seattle, Washington.

Dr. G. J. Eblin practiced here for quite a number of years and then organized the Home Guards of America. Since then he has devoted his time to that organization.

Dr. H. G. Davis was a practicing physician for many years until his death a short time ago.

Dr. Miss Emma Pearson had a large practice here, but gave it up for a man and moved to Michigan.

We have yet with us the following physicians: L. A. Ellis, T. Jax Cole, C. A. Files, F. P. Kreider, R. J. Morgan, F. E. Reed, J. Ward Wilson, Mrs. J. Ward Wilson, S. S. Tuttle, W. H. Perry, A. B. Gilliland, Calvin Pollock, C. B. Church, Robert Flemming, Charles B. Reid, D. L. Corbin, R. P. Richison, J. A. Hines and J. C. Haller.

Dr. William McHenry, of Lima, was frequently called to Van Wert before there was a resident physician here and also in the absence of our home physician. Thirty miles on horseback and over bad roads was something of a task, but he never refused to come.

CHAPTER XXIII

THE CHURCHES OF VAN WERT

The First Presbyterian Church—The First Methodist Episcopal Church—The First Baptist Church—Churches of the Evangelical Association of North America in Van Wert and Vicinity—St. Mary's Catholic Church.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Was organized by Rev. John N. Nevins under the authority of the Miami Presbytery, June 10, 1843, a petition having been presented by the Presbyterians residing in Van Wert and the vicinity.

At the time of the organization in the Court House, it was called the First Presbyterian Church, and consisted of 12 members, among whom were: Robert M. Thompson, Andrew Hattery, Annie Hattery, Joseph Hattery, Andrew Hattery, Jr., James Gordon Gilliland, Mrs. Margaret Gilliland and Mrs. Sarah Wells.

After its organization, according to the prescribed rules of the form of government, the members of the church proceeded to elect an elder, which resulted in the choice of Joseph Hattery, who was regularly ordained and continued to discharge the duties of this office until his death.

On June 11, 1843, the first sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered and on the Monday following two infants were baptized viz.: Hugh T., son of Robert Thompson, and Sarah Samantha, daughter of Mrs. Sarah Wells.

On September 12, 1843, the church petitioned the Miami Presbytery for a minister to preach and administer the sacrament, inasmuch as the Rev. John H. Nevins, then pastor of the church at Decatur, who had preached some months to the people of Van Wert previous and subsequent to its organization, finding himself unable to discharge the duties, requested to be released.

The church on the 18th of March, 1844, invited Rev. John Elliott, of Martinsburg, to supply them one half his time, and promised him as compensation \$100 in produce. The call was accepted by him and he continued his labors until March 21, 1845.

In this year the church was attached to the Sidney Presbytery. The number of communicants was now 23. From this period until 1851 the church had no regular pastor, but was supplied by Revs. John B. Morton, John S. Gallo-way, Richard M. Badean, Thomas Elcock, James Anderson and Milo Templeton.

In the spring of 1851 Rev. Richard Graham a missionary of the Miami Presbytery, was called to the pulpit and continued as pastor until the time of his death, September 29, 1851.

Rev. Thomas Elcock preached from Au-

gust 28, 1852 (once each month) until April 9, 1853, when he was elected the first regular pastor and installed as such, the congregation promising to pay him \$250 annually. His pastorate continued until 1861, a period of nine years and a prosperous one throughout.

In June, 1861 Rev. Solomon Cook took charge of the church as stated supply until the 26th of November, 1862, when Rev. John W. Allen took charge and preached until 1864. In July, 1866, Rev. Frederick R. Worthing began his pastorate, which continued two years. On June 24, 1869, Rev. William M. Claybaugh was elected pastor and served acceptably until December 4, 1871. On April 22, 1872, Rev. Brainard T. DeWitt was elected and his ministration continued until March 21, 1874. His immediate successor was Rev. Eugene P. Dunlap, who was elected in April, 1874, and served for one year.

On May 9, 1875, Rev. John V. Stockton began his labors in this church and on September 30, 1875, Lima Presbytery ordained him and installed him as pastor of the Van Wert church. He remained in charge until July, 1881, when he resigned to accept a call to the Third Presbyterian Church, of Fort Wayne.

In April, 1882, Rev. David Street was received from the Cleveland Presbytery and was installed April 27, 1882. He continued in charge for two years.

In November, 1884, Rev. J. A. Bower was received from the Indianapolis Presbytery and installed as pastor. In 1886 he resigned. On June 7, 1887, Rev. E. W. Work, a licentiate of the Athens Presbytery was received and accepted a call. He was ordained and installed and continued until November 1, 1890, when he resigned to accept a professorship in Wooster University.

On November 1, 1890, Rev. J. A. Gordon

came to the church at Van Wert and commenced his pastorate. He was regularly installed January 1, 1891, and has continued until the present time.

* * *

At the organization of the church, Joseph Hattery was chosen the first ruling elder and was the only one until August 21, 1851, when John Q. Adams and Isaac Tolan were elected additional elders. These three continued to serve until 1855. The death of Mr. Hattery and the removal of Messrs. Adams and Tolan to the West caused vacancies which were filled by the election of Andrew Conn and Evan W. Jones, on January 19, 1856. On January 23, 1860, the church elected Henry Robinson, James K. Scott, Thaddeus S. Gilliland and Oliver P. Clark.

On November 23, 1879 on account of the increase in the membership and the enlargement of the interests of the church, it was deemed to be to the best interests of the church to increase the number of elders to eight, and Dr. William N. Longworth, Dr. John Glenn, Moses H. McCoy and John D. Erwin were elected and ordained. On July 5, 1883, Elder James Calhoun was received by letter from the Presbyterian Church of Connellsville, Pennsylvania, and was invited to become a member of the session.

On November 15, 1885, John Capper, an elder from the Harrison church, having been received as a member of the church was received and enrolled as a member of the session.

The next elders elected (we have not the exact date but it was sometime in July, 1887) were: Dr. C. A. Murray, Prof. D. R. Boyd and John J. Humphreys. The first Thursday in April, 1899, Thomas J. Jones, W. B. Jones and Vinton L. Passler were elected elders.

On September 7, 1891, Vinton L. Passler was granted a letter on his removal to Boston.

Dr. John Glenn removed to Chicago. On September 11, 1890, the death of Elder Henry Robinson was reported to the session. On December 16, 1893, Elder John D. Ervine died. On November 9, 1894, Elder Thomas J. Jones died.

On February 10, 1895, Edward K. Ream, William Ervine, John E. Bernard and Hy. Davies were chosen elders. Davies declined ordination. On June 27, 1895, the death of Elder William Ervine was reported to the session. On April 5, 1900, L. C. Morgan was elected an elder, and on April 4, 1901, James R. McIlvain. Elder Charles A. Murray's death was reported to session March 1, 1900. Elder John E. Bernard moved. Elder John Capper died October 20, 1903.

* * *

On the 22nd day of August, 1851, James Gordon Gilliland, George S. Crafts and Evan W. Jones were elected deacons and ordained on September 7, 1851. Messrs. Gilliland and Crafts held the office until their deaths; Mr. Jones until 1856 when he was elected elder.

On July 31, 1854, Oliver P. Clark and Henry Robinson were elected deacons. Mr. Robinson was ordained as such October 3, 1854. Mr. Clark had been previously ordained

In 1866 Moses H. McCoy, James L. Price and L. M. Cary were elected and ordained.

In 1869 M. F. Richey, Dr. William N. Longworth and Nathaniel Hattery were elected and ordained.

In 1874 J. J. Humphreys and A. A. Giffin were elected deacons. After this the church chose trustees.

On November 9, 1879, a board of trustees was constituted, consisting of six persons to be divided into three classes and to serve as follows John A. Conn, and I. H. Eldridge, for three years; H. Kemper and Walter L.

Scott, for two years; James Montgomery and O. D. Swartout, for one year.

Here there is an omission in the records of about four or five years.

Recommencing with the year 1886, the following have been elected and served as trustees:

T. S. Gilliland, from 1886 to 1889; W. B. Jones, from 1886 to 1889; J. J. Humphreys, from 1887 to 1890; J. R. McIlvain, from 1887 to 1890; A. M. Bouton, from 1888 to 1891; E. K. Ream, from 1888 to 1891; J. W. Evans, from 1889 to 1895; N. L. Williams, from 1889 to 1895; A. J. Clymer, from 1889 to 1901; Henry Davies, from 1890 to 1902; W. M. Flaharty, from 1890 to 1902; J. P. Reed, from 1890 to 1906; W. L. Scott, from 1891 to 1894; J. E. Bernard, from 1891 to 1894; W. H. Heistand, from 1891 to 1906; D. H. Morgan, from 1894 to 1900; L. R. Bonewitz, from 1894 to 1906; R. J. Cavett, from 1895 to 1904; J. F. Sidle, from 1895 to 1904; H. P. McDonald, from 1900 to 1906; H. Kemper, from 1901 to 1906; J. O. Roberts, from 1904 to 1906.

* * *

The First Presbyterian congregation was organized in the old Court House. When the Methodists were building their church, the Presbyterians contributed to the fund for that purpose, and when the church was built they shared with the Methodists the use of the church when they were able to secure a minister.

In 1853 the congregation decided to erect a building for themselves for a place of worship. They purchased a lot on the south side of Main street and west side of Harrison street, on which they erected a neat frame building at the cost of \$3,000, which structure was occupied by them until 1872, when the congregation made arrangements for the erection of

their church edifice on the corner of South Washington and West Crawford streets.

The new building was commenced in the spring of 1873. The building committee consisted of Dr. W. N. Longworth, James L. Price, M. H. McCoy, Nathaniel Hattery, John A. Conn and T. S. Gilliland. The contract was let to E. W. Wilson, architect and builder. The erection of the building was prosecuted with vigor and in December, 1873, the lower room was occupied for holding church services and Sabbath-school. The old church on East Main street was sold to the German Evangelical congregation.

In 1877 the building committee again resumed their labors and the church was finished, the whole expense, including lot, being \$14,000.

* * *

Rev. Thomas Elcock was born and raised on a farm in York County, Pennsylvania. After he became of age, he decided to study for the ministry, and as there were only elementary schools for three months in the winter in his neighborhood he sold his horse and went to Lafayette College to get an education. At the close of the college year, he would sometimes walk home in three days, a distance of 120 miles, and return again the next year the same way. Once he and a companion took a pleasure trip on foot a distance of 80 miles at a total expense of 25 cents. At Lafayette College, where he graduated in 1841, after six years of study, he was associated with young men like Noah Porter, afterward president of Yale; and Dr. W. F. Green, the famous Hebraist of Princeton.

Mr. Elcock's theological course of three years was taken at Princeton under the instruction of her "Big Four"—Addison Alexander, Samuel Miller and Archibald and Charles Hodge—those great theologians whose genius and piety have influenced every part of the

world. He was licensed to preach in 1843 at the age of 32 and spent the remainder of his life in the active service of the ministry.

During the last year in the theological school at Princeton, Mr. Elcock preached regularly to the colored people in their church there, and was ever a warm friend of freedom and the colored race.

Graduating in 1844, he turned toward the great West. His father had died and left him some means, so journeying by canal boat, stage coach and river he made his way to Ohio, and preached for six months at Ravenna.

He was ordained and installed pastor of Covington, Gettysburg and Mount Jefferson in 1845, often preaching in the woods at the last named point. The country was at that time full of chills and fever, the traveling mostly on horseback and the distance the pastor had to travel was great.

In 1846 Mr. Elcock found that good thing from the Lord—a good wife, talented and consecrated, who helped and cheered him greatly for years until her death.

He accepted a call to the Van Wert and Delphos churches and moved to Delphos from Covington in 1853 and began his life in this region.

While living in Delphos, the village had a scourge of cholera, which swept away many lives. During the epidemic Mr. Elcock and his wife were unsparing and unselfish in the assistance they gave to the plague-stricken people.

In 1855 he removed to Van Wert, where he had already been preaching one half his time. Soon afterward, he purchased the home where he spent the remainder of his life. He built the first church for the Presbyterians here and was their pastor for a period of nine years continuously after the erection of the new house of worship. In the long period following until

he was called to his final reward, he was ever active in the church and in all things pertaining to it. In addition to his arduous ministerial duties, which he never neglected, he filled the office of worthy chaplain for 25 full terms in the lodge of the Sons of Temperance.

He died as he had lived, at peace with all the world, in cheerful hope for the future and without a struggle. The gates were opened and the spirit passed beyond, leaving behind a memory that is a life lesson to every man who knew him. After having spent the evening with a neighbor, Mr. Elcock returned to his home and sat in a chair to rest after the walk. When his daughter went to him to assist him in removing his overcoat as was her custom, she found that death had claimed her aged and beloved parent.

Rev. Thomas Elcock celebrated his 94th birthday anniversary and Monday, October 16, 1905, in his usual health and vigor, that bespoke for him many more years of life, and yet ere midweek he had passed over the river, dying on October 18th.

* * *

The old text, "By their fruits shall ye know them," applies as well to educational institutions as to any other. Among those to whom Washington and Jefferson College always pointed with pride, as furnishing the evidence of the character of her training, was Rev. John W. Allen, D. D. He was born February 1, 1837, in Belmont County, Ohio. His parents were William and Jane (Workman) Allen of sturdy Presbyterian stock. A farmer's son spending his early years on a farm, he was given the strong, healthy development that lies at the foundation of an active, useful life. Early in his life his attention turned toward the Gospel ministry, and with this in view he began his educational career. His academic studies were pursued in Miller Academy in Guernsey

County, Ohio, which institution he entered in the year 1855. Here his course of study was finished with honor to himself. He then entered the sophomore class of Washington and Jefferson College in 1857 and was graduated in the class of 1860. Immediately after his graduation, he entered the Western Theological Seminary, where he remained two years. The third year of his theological course was spent in the Seminary of the Northwest, where he finished his theological studies in 1863. After leaving the seminary, he was called to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of Van Wert, Ohio, where he was ordained to the Gospel ministry and installed as pastor by the Lima Presbytery. During this pastorate, in the year 1864, he was married to Roxana Purmort. He continued in his first church, laboring with great fidelity and success, until ill health resulting from a malarious climate compelled his resignation.

Removing to Minnesota, he served one year as stated supply for the church at Lake City. Subsequently he removed to Kirkwood, Illinois, where he spent two years as stated supply.

The deep affection and high esteem with which Dr. Allen is still remembered by his former parishioners bear witness to the fidelity and acceptableness of his labors among them.

In the spring of 1868 he removed to Kansas City, where for a short time he supplied the First Presbyterian Church of that city. While thus engaged, he was elected by his presbytery to be the Presbyterian missionary of the Osage (now Kansas City) Presbytery. His efficiency and success in discharging the duties of his new office drew to him the attention of the Synod of Missouri, as the man best qualified for the important office of synodical missionary. He was unanimously elected superintendent of missions by the synod in 1873. The duties of his office necessitated his removal to St. Louis,



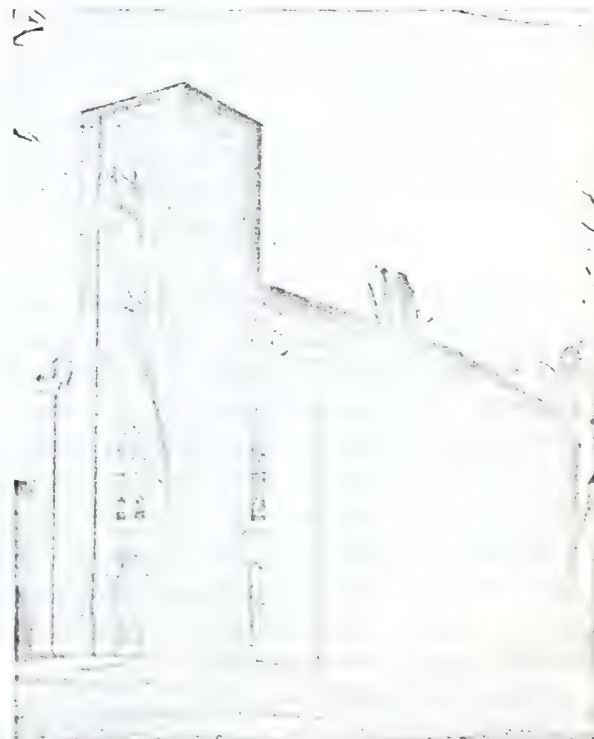
OLD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, VAN WERT
Now St. Peter's Church



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, VAN WERT



FIRST M. E. CHURCH, VAN WERT



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, VAN WERT

where he for years resided. At the time of his election the mission work of the synod, owing to ecclesiastical divisions which had hitherto prevailed, was in an enfeebled and unorganized condition, but under his wise leadership it soon put on new strength and activity. His wisdom and fidelity in his labors soon won for him the confidence of his brethren in the ministry and for eight successive years he was unanimously reelected to his office.

In 1880 he resigned his position to accept that of superintendent of the work of the Board of Publication in the Southwest. The administrative ability which he showed as superintendent of missions was conspicuously manifested in his new work and he had the satisfaction of seeing it grow from small beginnings to large proportions. The position which he occupied and his accurate knowledge of the field led him to see and urge the expediency of establishing a religious newspaper in the interests of the Southwest. Accordingly he began the publication of the monthly known as the *St. Louis Evangelist*, of which he was the editor, carrying on this work in connection with that of the Board of Publication. The success of the effort led to the formation of a company to publish the *St. Louis Evangelist Weekly*. Dr. Allen was chosen treasurer of the new company and publisher of the paper. Subsequently the name was changed to that of *The Mid-Continent*, and about the time of his death this was merged into *The Herald and Presbyter*.

His manifold and laborious duties did not limit the labors of Dr. Allen. No one in the Presbytery did more active or efficient work in evangelization than he. He preached almost ever Sabbath, and was the recognized leader in the mission work of the Presbyterian Church in the city of St. Louis. As secretary of the Home Mission Committee, the case of the mis-

sion stations and pastorless churches fell largely upon him. He was also secretary and one of the managers of the St. Louis Bible Society. In 1875 he was elected moderator of the Synod of Missouri and in 1879 the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by the University of Wooster. Dr. Allen was an earnest and scriptural preacher, pleasing and forceful in his delivery and was always heard with pleasure and profit. His genial and unselfish disposition won him a host of friends, and his wisdom and well-balanced judgment made him a leader in counsel among his brethren.

He and his wife had no children of their own but minor children of relatives have been educated by them, and an adopted daughter received every educational advantage and grew into womanhood in their happy home. Dr. Allen's duties were those of organizer and superintendent in the work of the church and in this field he displayed signal ability and his work will long abide as a memorial to his faithful, wise and selfsacrificing labors.

* * *

Rev. Eugene P. Dunlap, having decided to enter the missionary field, wanted to spend one more year in this country to complete his medical studies. He accordingly agreed to supply the pulpit for the First Presbyterian Church at Van Wert for one year. It was with sorrow that the church parted with him. In 1875 he sailed for Siam, where he has since labored. He is a member of the Siam Presbytery and is accomplishing a great work.

* * *

On May 9, 1875, Rev. John V. Stockton began his labors in the Van Wert church and on September 30, 1875, was ordained and installed pastor of the church. He remained in charge until July, 1881, when he resigned to

accept a call to the Third Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne. Shortly after moving to Fort Wayne, he and his family were afflicted with diphtheria that affected his voice to such an extent that he was compelled to give up his charge and rest for a few years; in fact he never fully recovered from the effects of the disease. He was later located at Mercer, Pennsylvania, where he preached for a number of years and became deservedly popular in his home city, as well as in the presbytery and synod. His health failing he removed to Pittsburg that he might the better educate his sons. After suffering for a number of years, he and his wife went to California in hopes that the climate might be beneficial to his health, but the disease had too strong a hold and he died there in 1905. He was a man of great ability and left the impress of his devoted life upon every community in which he lived.

* * *

On June 7, 1887, Rev. E. W. Work accepted a call and was ordained and installed pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Van Wert, and remained until November 1, 1890, when he resigned to accept a professorship in the University of Wooster. He was afterward called to the Third Presbyterian Church of Dayton, of which he was pastor for several years until the health of his family required a change of climate, when he went to Berkeley, California, where he was pastor for a number of years. The health of his family not improving, he finally resigned and accepted a call to a church at Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he is now stationed. He is a man of great ability and untiring energy. He is devoted to his work wherever he is situated and wonderfully successful and a good organizer, being always able to enlist his members in the work of the church.

THE FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Court House was used by this denomination as their first place of worship.

The enterprise of erecting a church was inaugurated in the year 1845 under the pastorate of Rev. John Graham. A subscription to the church fund was liberal and lot No. 20 on North Jefferson street was purchased from Walter Buckingham for \$50. The original trustees were Abel R. Strother, Abraham Zimmerman, Theophilus W. King, Samuel S. Brown and James M. Young, who officiated in that capacity for many years.

The contract for the erection of a frame church was awarded to James H. Long, which included not only its erection but the furnishing of the material. During the winter of 1846-47 the timber was hauled upon the ground and in the summer of 1847 Mr. Long commenced the work, but peculiar circumstances compelled him to abandon it. Abraham Zimmerman undertook to finish the frame work, while Darius and Joseph Evers put on the roof, inclosed the building and laid the floors. The building was not plastered, but was seated with rough boards to accommodate the congregation, while neither pulpit nor tower graced the church. In this condition it was used for several years as a house of worship by all denominations. The plastering was not finished until 1852, when measures were taken to have the rough boards exchanged for better furniture. To the accomplishment of this object, Rev. Nathan H. Taylor devoted the energies of both body and mind, he having been sent to fill the pulpit. Through the days of the week, besides attending to pastoral duties he assisted in cutting and hauling to the sawmill the walnut logs from which the seats were sawed. In 1850, the timber be

ing well seasoned, measures were taken to raise the necessary funds and in 1854 the church was finished.

To perpetuate the principal actors and the respective parts taken, we add their names as an encouragement to others to act likewise under similar circumstances. Rev. Nathan H. Taylor was the principal architect and erected the pulpit and altar; the seats were made by J. W. Penn, Joseph Evers and Morgan Mumaugh, and the cupola was built by Darius Evers and Samuel Latimore. The bell was placed in the tower on May 4, 1854.

* * *

The following ministers have filled the pulpit as pastors: 1845-46, Rev. John Graham; 1846-47, Rev. John S. Kalb; 1847-48, Rev. James Albright; 1848-49, Rev. A. Harmount; 1850-51, Rev. William Guiberson and Rev. Jacob Burkholder; 1851-52, Rev. Reuben D. Oldfield and John K. Ford; 1852-53, Rev. Nathan H. Taylor, Rev. John Graham and Rev. Gersham Lease; 1853-54, Rev. Nathan H. Taylor and Rev. J. Duvall; 1854-55, Rev. Joseph Fribley and Rev. N. B. C. Love (the conference in 1855 made Van Wert a station); 1856-57, Rev. John Graham; 1858, Rev. A. Hollington (the conference in 1858 united Van Wert and Delphos with two ministers); 1858-59, Rev. William A. Baker and Rev. E. G. Longworth; 1859-60, Rev. William A. Baker and Rev. J. N. Priddy; 1860-61, Rev. F. Merritt and Rev. J. N. Priddy; 1861-62, Rev. J. F. Mounts and Rev. L. A. Belt; 1862-63, Rev. J. F. Mounts and Rev. A. B. Webster; 1863-64, Rev. A. L. Nickerson and Rev. A. B. Webster (the conference in 1864 changed Van Wert to a station); 1864-67, Rev. Oliver Kennedy; 1867-68, Rev. George Mather; 1868-69, Rev. H. E. Pilcher (his appointment supplied by Rev. J. F. Mounts); 1869-71, Rev. William Jones; 1871-72, Rev.

A. Harmount; 1872-73, Jacob Halderman; 1873-75, Rev. Oliver Kennedy; 1876-77, Rev. William Jones; 1877-79, Rev. J. R. Henderson; 1879-82, Rev. A. J. Fish; 1883-85, Rev. William Lance; 1886-88, Rev. Clark Crawford; 1889-91, Rev. James H. Fitzwater; 1892-94, Rev. J. M. Avann; 1895, Rev. L. M. Albright; 1896-98, Rev. A. J. Fish; 1899-1902, Rev. P. P. Pope, 1903-06, Rev. M. M. Figley.

* * *

Work commenced on the First Methodist Episcopal Church in the spring of 1876. The pastor at that time was Rev. Oliver Kennedy. The corner-stone of the new church was laid July 25, 1877, Rev. William Jones then being pastor. The board of trustees was constituted as follows: J. M. C. Marble, president, Levi F. Zimmerman, secretary; J. S. Brumback, treasurer; J. S. Zook, T. J. DeMoss, D. Casto and Hiram C. Glenn. Dr. Adam N. Krout, E. Laukart, J. M. C. Marble, J. S. Zook and T. J. DeMoss were the building committee, and T. J. Tolan & Son, of Fort Wayne, the architects. The corner-stone was laid with appropriate exercises and in it was placed a copper box in which were deposited the following articles: Holy Bible; Methodist Hymn Book; copies of the county papers; names of all subscribers to the new church to that date, 672 in all; a written document by the mayor of the town, containing the names of the founders of the town, when laid out, when incorporated, and names of present officers and population; the Improved Order of Red Men deposited a copy of their by-laws, list of first officers elected, also of present officers, and a copy of the proceedings of Grand Council held in May, 1877; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows deposited a certified list of members in good standing, a copy of the constitution and by-laws and names of present officers; the Free Masons deposited a roll containing an ac-

count of the organization of the lodge, names of present officers, address delivered by A. P. McConahay, master of the lodge, also a Masonic silver trowel; T. S. McKim deposited a bottle each of rye, wheat, barley and corn; a small American flag, a paper collar, postal currency, silver coin and samples of dry goods; and the secretary of the board of trustees of the church deposited a historical statement, outlining the organization and growth of the church, which was written by Rev. William Jones. This sketch in part was as follows: Van Wert Mission was organized in 1840 and embraced all of Van Wert County, and that portion of territory embraced in Mercer County. The first quarterly meeting was held at William Priddy's home, October 24, 1840; Wesley Brock, presiding elder; Henry Warner, missionary; Simon A. Alderman, local preacher; William Priddy, Asahel Alderman, Wesley Harper and Thomas W. Bowdle, exhorters; John Mark and Alexander McCoy, leaders; Smith Hill and Richard Pring, stewards. The first quarterly meeting held in the town of Van Wert, which was also the first for the circuit after it ceased to be a mission, was held October 21, 1843; John G. Kellam, presiding elder; James McNabb, pastor. First reference to Sunday-school work on record was under date of 1844.

The lecture room of the First Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated February 3, 1878. Rev. J. R. Henderson then being pastor. Mr. Henderson and Rev. Geiger of the Lutheran Church read the Scripture lessons and Rev. L. A. Belt, of Toledo, offered prayer; after which Rev. Oliver Kennedy, former pastor, then stationed at Sidney, Ohio, preached a very fine sermon, followed by the dedicatory services according to the ritual of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The audience room was not dedicated until Sunday, September 29,

1889. Dr. LeRoy A. Belt delivered a very able discourse, after which the room was dedicated. Other ministers present were: Rev. Clark Crawford, the outgoing pastor; Rev. James H. Fitzwater, the incoming pastor; Rev. J. R. Henderson, presiding elder of the Lima district; Rev. William Hook, of Cridersville; Rev. C. B. Hickernell, of Shane's Crossing; Rev. L. H. Lindsay, of Convoy; and Revs. E. W. Work, Thomas Elcock, James F. Mounts and J. P. Snyder, of Van Wert. The church, whose estimated cost was \$30,100, was dedicated free from debt. It is a fine structure. The auditorium, lecture room and the church parlor are well adapted to the purpose for which they were built. There was a collection taken up on the day when the audience room was dedicated, to reduce the debt on the church organ. The board of trustees at this time was constituted as follows: Dr. Adam N. Krour, president; Levi F. Zimmerman, secretary; D. P. Dunathan, treasurer, J. S. Zook, F. L. Webster, J. A. Gleason and G. M. Hall.

The pastor of the church at this date (November 11, 1905) is Rev. M. M. Figley. The board of trustees is constituted as follows: D. P. Dunathan, president; Levi F. Zimmerman, secretary; E. I. Antrim, treasurer; J. S. Zook, F. L. Webster, H. V. Olney, William A. Clark, Clem V. Hoke and G. M. Hall.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

There is a record of the organization of a Baptist Church of four members in Van Wert in 1847. The minutes of the Auglaize Association show that the Van Wert church was reported in 1850—12 members with Elder J. G. Van Volkenburg as pastor. In 1852 this church did not report. The records of the church show that it was reorganized in 1853 with eight members. D. D. Johnson was pastor in 1854, when 10 members were reported.

The history of the church is a history of serious struggles against many difficulties.

From 1855 to 1859, Elder A. Larue, a member of the church, seems to have been the parlor are all well adapted to the purpose for two years Elder R. Edmonds served as pastor and was under appointment as a missionary of the Ohio Baptist Convention.

After that, Elder Isaac Bloomer was pastor for three years, being also aided by the convention. Then Elder Larue and Elder Edmonds again served one year each. Next Elder A. Virgil, for a brief period; afterwards, Elder Larue again.

For 20 years the congregation had no house of worship, its meetings being held in private houses, in a schoolhouse and in a public hall. The membership in 1871 was only 32. In that year the church bought a schoolhouse in the west part of town and fitted it up for a place of worship. Elder A. Larue was pastor. A prayer meeting was started in November, 1870, which preceded a revival in which five converts were baptized. In 1871 and 1873 Elder Larue was pastor; in 1872 Elder Bowers seems to have filled the place. In 1872 at the close of its 25th year the church had only 35 members.

In 1874 G. C. Graham became pastor. That year there were eight additions by baptism and the membership was brought up to 53. In 1875 Elder Larue died. In 1875 and 1876 William Leet was pastor and the church rejoiced over its first large ingathering. Nineteen converts were baptized and 15 others were added, making the membership 72 at the time of the association meeting. In 1878 for a few months V. B. Riley was pastor. Then followed a pastorless interval and a period of decline until 1882, when there were only 57 members. Then William Leet returned and during an-

other pastorate led the church in an effort, which secured a lot in the central part of the city. Once more the Ohio Baptist Convention made an appropriation to aid in the support of a pastor. This aid was continued for nearly 10 years. In 1884 N. B. H. Gardner became pastor. Twelve converts were baptized, nine others were added and the membership was brought up to 70.

The church then entered upon a building enterprise which did not culminate in complete success until several years later. Mr. Gardner, however, should be remembered as the pastor who led in this movement, and who did the largest amount of hard work. His term of service was three years. In 1887 the church was reported as being almost completed; the membership was only 36. The next year 61 were reported.

J. E. Thomas in a pastorate of seven years had the satisfaction of seeing the church more than doubled in membership and greatly strengthened by the adoption of good and systematic financial methods and the building up of the Young Men's Union, the Sabbath-school and the Women's Missionary Society. In his time, on July 9, 1891, the new house was dedicated. Following this was a revival in which the church received 57 members by baptism and had 21 other additions. W. H. Wagoner, an equally faithful and laborious pastor, took up the work in 1895 and continued five years, in every one of which there were a few additions, but corresponding removals and deaths with some erasures left the membership at the date of his resignation about where it was when Pastor Thomas resigned.

In 1900 the church assumed its own support. C. W. Nichols served as pastor one year, followed by W. N. Ferris for two years.

The present pastor, Rev. Lotus Aspy, has

been serving the church since 1902, during which time substantial material improvements have been made. The church was decorated and repaired at a cost of \$800, and a parsonage was built at an expense of \$2,500. In addition there has been an increase of members (now 165), a marked advance in missionary offerings and an increased interest in the Sunday-school and all other departments of church work.

CHURCHES OF THE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION
OF NORTH AMERICA IN VAN WERT
AND VICINITY.

This church had its origin in this country exclusively among the Germans. In the year 1852 Rev. A. Nicholai and Rev. J. Fox were sent on what was then the St. Marys circuit of the Ohio Conference.

They established three new preaching places: One in the old log schoolhouse on Jackson street, between Washington and Jefferson streets, in Van Wert; another five miles south of Van Wert in the Hertle settlement and the third six miles north in the Mohr settlement. At the first named place efforts proved unavailing for a time. At the Hertle settlement immediate success attended the efforts put forth and a class was formed. In the Mohr settlement Revs. Nicholai and Fox labored unsuccessfully, but their successors, Revs Krone-miller and Strickler, succeeded in 1853 in organizing a class.

In 1871, several families having moved into the town of Van Wert, Rev. P. Roth organized a class of eight persons. About 1865 the class north of Van Wert in the Mohr settlement built a church which cost \$600.

In 1872 the class in Van Wert built a church which cost \$2,400 and the class in the Hertle

settlement built a church at an expense of \$1,000.

In 1874 the conference built a mission parsonage, which cost \$750. To the credit of the Christian liberality of the Evangelical Association, in the first 28 years of its existence in the county three churches have been erected at a cost of \$4,000, and a parsonage at a cost of \$750.

St. Peter's Church is located four miles south of town. B. F. Dill was pastor from 1879 to 1881. During his pastorate the church enjoyed a revival that resulted in 35 additions to the membership. From 1882 to 1884 J. E. Smith was pastor and was an able minister and a successful pastor. In 1885 and 1886 S. S. Albert was pastor. During a revival in his pastorate many members were added. In 1887 H. Arlen was pastor from April until July, when he was chosen presiding elder and J. H. Evans filled out the unexpired time. From 1888 to 1890 F. Rausch was pastor. In 1891 and 1892 J. E. Smith was pastor for the second time, but had to give up preaching on account of throat trouble.

From 1892 to 1894 William Ackerman was pastor. He was very useful, always cheerful and happy and made those around him the same.

From 1895 to 1899 D. D. Spangler was pastor. In 1901 D. B. Koenig became pastor and during his pastorate there was a revival in the church. In February, 1901, steps were taken to build a new church, and a contract was let under the supervision of a building committee of which Samuel Hertle was chairman.

The church is of brick with slate roof and furnace and nicely furnished at a cost of \$3,500. It was dedicated in March, 1902, during Aug. Girst's pastorate.

J. E. Stoops, the present pastor, has served

since 1904. The church has a membership of 63 and is in a flourishing condition. In 1904 the church north of Van Wert, known as the the Mohr church, was made a separate charge with Rev. Rinkeberg as pastor; in 1905 Rev. Raney was pastor. The congregation in Van Wert remains in the same charge with the congregation in the Hertle neighborhood.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The Van Wert Catholics were supplied from Delphos as a station and then as a mission from 1867 until 1876. Rev. F. Westerholt paid his first pastoral visit to Van Wert in July, 1867. He continued his visits monthly until January, 1868, and his successor, Rev. A. I. Hoeffel, continued for about seven years. For nearly two years mass was said in the residence of Peter Roach. In July, 1869, Father Hoeffel bought two lots fronting on South Chestnut street. On one of the lots a frame house stood, which he fitted up as a temporary chapel. This, however, soon proved too small and Father Hoeffel was obliged to provide a larger and better place of worship.

He therefore built the present brick church, 30 by 55 feet, in the summer of 1874. The church with the two lots he bought in 1868 cost \$4,000, most of which remained a heavy debt on the little mission. Father Hoeffel did not lack courage, however, but with the kind assistance of his congregation at Delphos and of many generous Protestants at Van Wert he

gradually reduced the debt and finally canceled it in 1876.

In September of the same year Bishop Dwenger of Fort Wayne dedicated the church, Bishop Gilmour being ill in Europe.

In December, 1876, Rev. J. H. Leddy was appointed first resident pastor of Van Wert, but four months later he was removed.

Rev. J. T. Cahill was pastor from August, 1878, to January, 1879, and attended from Landeck for five months. Rev. P. H. Barry served from July, 1879, to July, 1881; Rev. F. J. O'Neil, to March, 1886; Rev. E. F. Rohan, to January, 1888; Rev. M. J. Clear, to February, 1891; Rev. J. J. Clark, to June, 1898; Rev. S. Weber, from June, 1898, to June, 1902; Rev. P. J. Quinn, to October, 1903. Since then Rev. Joseph J. Beucler has had charge of the congregation.

Shortly after his arrival, Father O'Neil built the spire, thus completing the exterior of the church. In 1881 Father Barry had bought on credit a house and lot in the rear of the church and had it fitted up for his residence. Father O'Neil paid for the property during his pastorate. As it proved unsatisfactory, it was sold by Father Clark in September, 1897, and the proceeds of the sale were applied toward paying for the new frame residence he built that year on South Chestnut street.

Although Van Wert is a county seat and quite a business center, it has never attracted much of a Catholic population and for that reason it has not been possible thus far to establish a parish school.

CHAPTER XXIV

FRATERNAL AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES

Free and Accepted Masons—Independent Order of Odd Fellows—Grand Army of the Republic—Improved Order of Red Men—Royal Arcanum—Ancient Order of United Workmen—Knights of Pythias—National Union—Knights of the Maccabees—Modern Woodmen of America—The Home Guards of America—The Trexnav Club—Fraternal Order of Eagles.

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

Van Wert Lodge, No. 218, was constituted in Van Wert, the charter having been granted by the R. W. Grand Lodge of Ohio, October 22, 1852. The charter members were G. McConahay, Robert Gilliland, Robert Conn, O. W. Rose, George S. Crafts, James Emerson, George Marsh and Thomas Emerson. The charter was signed by the following grand officers: William B. Hubbard, R. W. G. M.; A. D. Bigelow, R. W. D. G. M.; William B. Dodds, S. G. W.; L. V. Bierce, J. G. W.; B. F. Smith, grand secretary; Leonidas Jewett, grand treasurer.

The charter officers of Van Wert Lodge No. 218, were: G. McConahay, W. M.; Robert Gilliland, S. W.; Robert Conn, J. W.; G. S. Craft, secretary, George Marsh, treasurer.

The present officers (1906) are: Horace Bonewitz, W. M.; Caples Foster, S. W.; D. E. Agler, J. W.; Frank Rowley, S. D.; F. W. Leslie, J. D.; Thomas L. Davis, secretary; Walter L. Scott, treasurer; A. C. Gilpin, tyler. The present membership is 208.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Van Wert Lodge, No. 251, was established in Van Wert by the R. W. Grand Lodge of Ohio, which granted a charter February 23, 1854, to the following bretheren: J. B. Coffin, L. B. McGowan, G. L. Jacobs, F. T. Coffin, J. Slater, G. McConahay, D. S. Miller, T. Propt, W. C. Galliher, D. Major, L. F. Fletcher, J. Shaw, R. Conn and J. C. Parkinson.

The lodge was constituted May 18, 1854, by John A. Lee, and the following officers installed: J. B. Coffin, N. G.; L. B. McGowan, V. G.; G. L. Jacobs, secretary; John Shaw, treasurer.

The present officers are: N. J. Mattick, N. G.; H. M. Smith, V. G.; A. J. Gleason, secretary; Aug. Stitz, treasurer.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

This patriotic and benevolent society had its origin in Springfield, Illinois, April 1, 1866, the first general order ever issued being given on this date. From this beginning the organization spread over all the Northern States.

IV. C. Scott Post, No. 100, was organized in 1866 and named for Capt. William C. Scott, of Company A, 99th Ohio, as brave a man as ever entered his country's service, who gave up his life on the battle-field of Stone River. After a prosperous course for a number of years, it was allowed to go down and the charter was returned.

Then on July 13, 1881, the post was reorganized with the following charter members. G. Wells, Luke W. Scott, Alex. R. Mullen, W. T. Exline, Fred Billman, Dennis Welch, S. R. Moneysmith, David Rison, John W. Hoaglin, Oliver Eagy, Thomas Doyle, J. S. Stanton, Edmund Stupp, D. M. Borland, Charles Church, W. H. Whittung, E. L. Gnyselman, C. R. Alberry, Julius A. Gleason, I. N. Alexander, August Stitz, John Martin, William Smith, E. L. Quick, Abram Drake, James W. Wiley, T. J. Davis, D. L. Corbin, A. J. Burch, G. M. Saltzgaber, A. Spayd, W. W. DeMoss, Andrew J. Gleason, Adam Black and J. D. Kuhn.

Since its reorganization, the post has been gradually adding to its membership. At one time a few designing persons attempted to disband the post for the purpose of getting the furniture and funds of the post for the purpose of starting a U. V. U. post, but this was prevented by the timely decision of Senior Vice Commander J. W. Lee, who was called to the chair after the resignation of Commander Mullen. After the designs were discovered, the members rallied and stood by their charter and since then the post has prospered. It now has a membership of 146 in good standing and a snug sum of money well invested that is held for the time when the membership will be few and the calls for help many.

The present officers are as follows: A. L. Sweet, commander; L. T. Lumunion, senior vice commander; John S. Eyler, junior vice

commander; Thomas P. Johnson, chaplain; I. W. McIlvain, quartermaster; H. H. Cory, officer of the day; John C. Albright, officer of the guard; H. G. Lehmann and T. S. Gilliland, trustees; B. F. Bowers, John S. Eyler and Milton Walker, delegates; D. S. Johnson, Andrew J. Gleason and J. C. Albright, alternates.

IMPROVED ORDER OF RED MEN.

Abanaki Tent, No. 77.—The dispensation to organize this tent is dated the 23rd of the Flower Moon, G. S. D. 382, and signed by W. S. Brands, grand sachem of the Grand Council of Ohio, and attested by C. S. Bells, chief of records, which body was subsequently organized by the Grand Council of the United States, April 7, 1852. The motto of the order is "Friendship, Freedom and Charity."

The constitution provides that if a member be disabled by sickness or injury to his person, the weekly sum of \$3 shall be paid out of the funds of the order. To this end there is a relief committee, whose duty it is to attend to all such cases. The order also provides by assessment for the relief of the widows and orphans of deceased members.

ROYAL ARCANUM.

The order stands at the head of the fraternal benefit organizations of the United States. The membership of the order at large on January 1, 1906, was 265,000, while the aggregate amount disbursed to families of 35,324 deceased members has reached at this date the enormous sum of \$98,536,942.56.

Van Wert Council, No. 106, was instituted November 18, 1878, by P. L. Teeple, deputy grand regent, assisted by A. S. Burt as secretary *pro tem.*, and by O. C. McCurdy as treasurer *pro tem.* Following are the names of the

charter members: Dr. Adam N. Krout, William H. Pennell, Ira P. Shisler, O. D. Swartout, A. B. McCurdy, A. S. Burt, Dr. William Smith, Perry C. Conn, William T. Exline, James Clark, Carey C. Clark, Z. H. Wenger, William H. Clymer, W. R. Cook, Milton H. Clark, Malcom Wilkinson, William L. Roebuck, Dr. John Glenn, A. P. Halfhill, G. M. Saltzgaber, George F. Muntzinger, H. V. Olney, D. A. Johns, John S. Eyler, Hal. D. Morgan, Rev. D. L. Mackenzie and O. C. McCurdy. The council organized by electing the following officers: Regent, D. A. Johns; vice regent, William H. Pennell; orator, G. M. Saltzgaber; past regent, Dr. Adam N. Krout; secretary, O. D. Swartout; collector, O. C. McCurdy; treasurer, James Clark; chaplain, Rev. D. L. Mackenzie; guide, John Glenn; warden, Perry C. Conn; sentry, George F. Muntzinger; trustees—W. H. Clymer, W. T. Exline and A. B. McCurdy.

Since its organization, over 27 years ago, to January 1, 1906, there have been enrolled 156 citizens of Van Wert and vicinity as members.

The present membership, January 1, 1906, is 65; the usual losses by death, withdrawal cards and suspensions for non-payment of assessments from year to year still leave the council with a much larger membership than that with which it started—all representative citizens of their respective communities.

There has been disbursed to the families of deceased members of Van Wert Council about \$46,000.

The officers elected to serve during the year 1906 are as follows: Regent, Carey C. Clark; vice regent, Charles E. Lawhead; past regent, H. V. Olney; orator, F. H. Sweet; chaplain, Joe May; secretary, A. S. Burt; collector, L. G. Gilliland; treasurer, Frank B.

Hall; guide, Harry Burt; warden, John Saltzgaber, Jr.; sentry, C. H. Hoelle, medical examiner, Dr. C. A. Files; trustees—Rudolph Pett, Tom W. Davies and C. J. Scholler.

ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN.

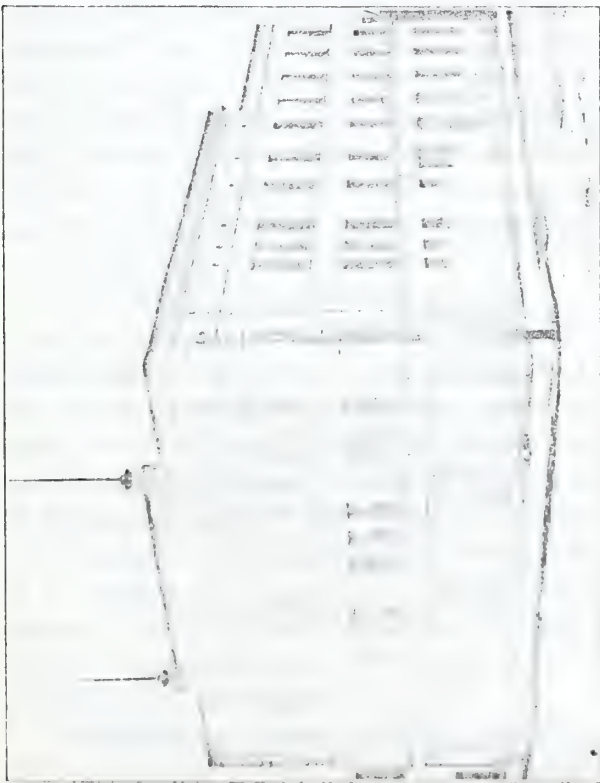
This order was the pioneer of fraternal life insurance in America, having for its founder John J. Upchurch, a machinist by trade, who organized the first lodge of the new order, at Meadville, Pennsylvania, October 27, 1868.

From a membership of 14 at that date the order has now increased to nearly a half million members, all of whom are required to carry insurance. It has paid to the heirs of its beneficiaries nearly (or quite) 17 millions at actual cost. The order has now passed the experimental stage of fraternal protection and its present rate, being based upon an actual experience of 35 years and computed by actuaries of the highest repute, may be regarded as ample to protect all of its beneficiaries without further change, while within the means of all industrious temperate workers.

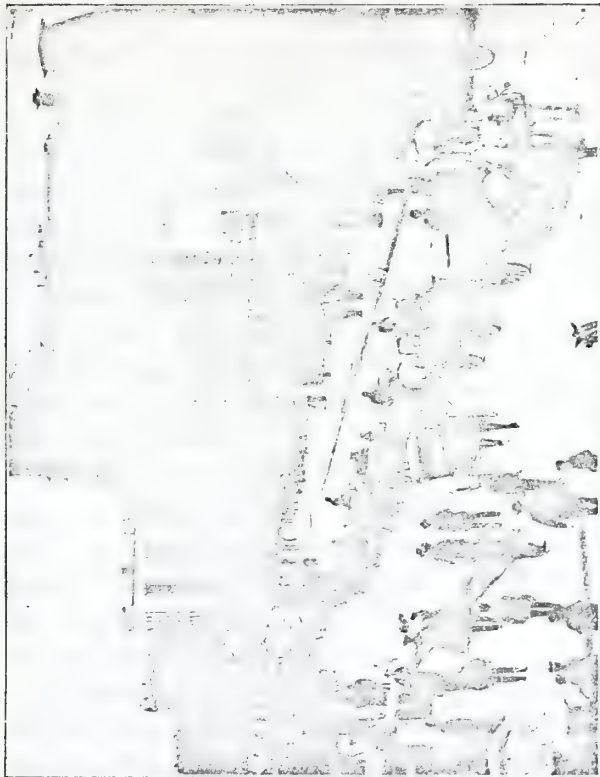
Van Wert Lodge, No. 47, was organized by John R. Hughes, from Erie, Pennsylvania, then a resident of Van Wert, and was instituted April 26, 1882, by J. M. Daniels, grand master workman of Ohio. Its present membership is not large but embraces some of Van Wert's most respected men, the present mayor, Charles E. Lawhead, being secretary and financial agent of the lodge. It is one of the joint lessees of G. A. R. Hall in the Kime Block.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

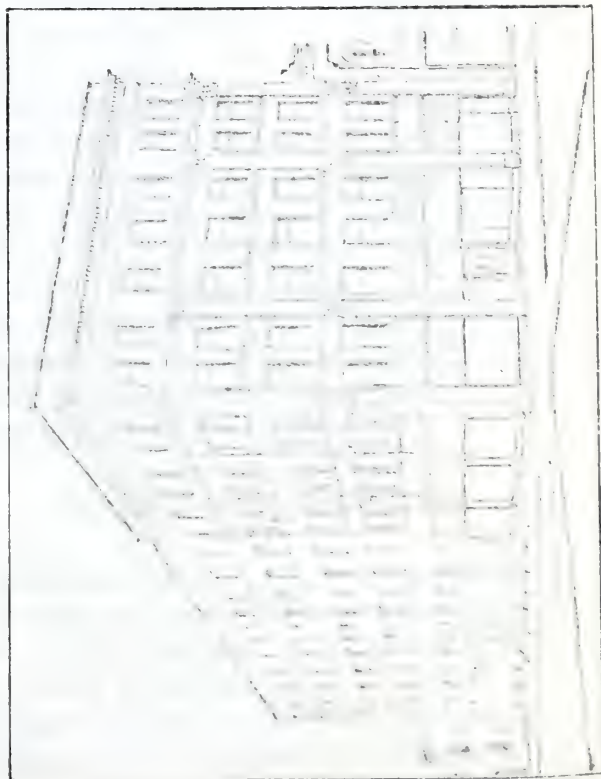
Van Wert Lodge, No. 130, was instituted in this city by Walter B. Richie, of Lima, Ohio, May 24, 1882. The charter members were:



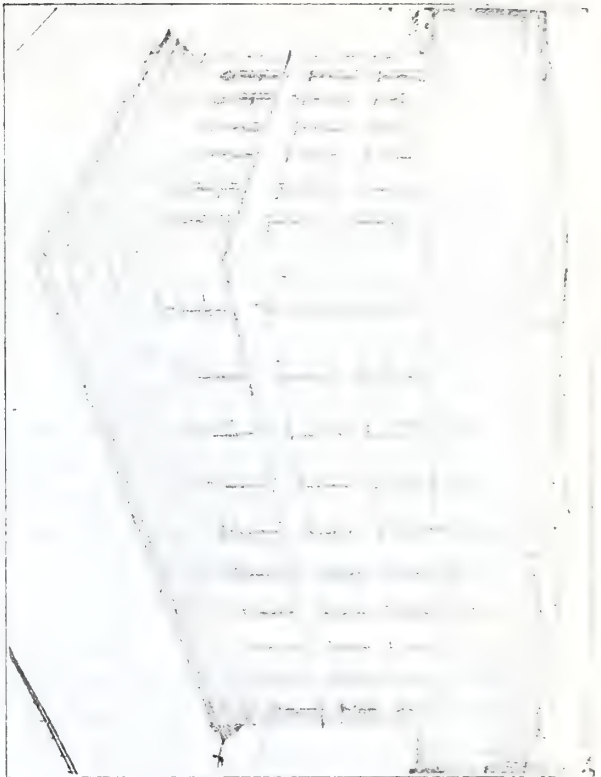
HUMPHREYS & HUGHES BLOCK, VAN WERT



A SCENE ON MAIN STREET, VAN WERT
Eleven Wagons Containing 3,400 Bushels of Barley on the Way to the Elevator



HUGHES BLOCK, VAN WERT



HUGHES BLOCK, VAN WERT

H. G. Richie, Dr. G. W. McGavren, D. A. Clark, C. W. Isenhardt, A. J. Porter, C. W. Bonewitz, C. C. Clark, A. F. Baker, W. T. Hughes, C. F. Odaffer, H. Kemper, W. M. Bethards, E. R. Merrick, J. W. Rimer, E. L. Wilkinson, Henry Wassenberg, F. J. Gleason, J. W. Shultz, J. L. McKim, W. M. Smith, W. T. Exline, B. H. Oyler, U. H. Hester, E. J. Pennypacker, W. W. Wilson, E. W. Strack and A. B. Gleason.

Ever since its institution, the lodge has shown a steady growth. Its membership is made up of representative men from all the leading business, professional and social circles, and numbers 244, according to its last report to the Grand Lodge.

Three times since its organization, the lodge has been compelled to change its quarters to accommodate itself to its growing conditions. The lodge is now in possession of the most commodious lodge rooms in this part of the State, completely fitted and furnished throughout in the most elegant style, and entirely free from debt, which occupy the third floor of the brick block, situated at the corner of Main and North Washington streets, with lodge room 44 by 44 feet, and commodious parlors, banquet hall, kitchen, smoking rooms, etc., etc.

The officers for the current term, January 1 to July 1, 1906, are as follows: Chancellor commander, C. M. Drury; vice chancellor, J. W. Morris; prelate, E. C. Balyeat; master of work, F. E. Longwell; keeper of records and seal, A. S. K. Holbrook; master of finance, H. J. Wilson; master of exchequer, L. E. Gleason; master at arms, D. E. Agler; inner guard, J. A. Webber, outer guard, C. O. Richie; lodge deputy, J. M. Showalter; county deputy, Caples Foster; trustees—Clement V. Hoke, Charles Strong and T. M. Smith.

The Rathbone Sisters, the ladies' auxiliary, also meet in the Knights of Pythias Hall.

NATIONAL UNION.

Henry Ward Beecher Council, No. 275, was organized in Van Wert, on March 17, 1887, with the following charter members: H. V. Olney, A. S. Burt, C. B. McConahay, F. H. Carper, W. C. Hastings, J. O. Clark, D. W. Collins, A. L. Doran, W. W. Melshimer, J. M. Jones, J. Miller, Jr., A. Cahn, C. H. Noell, W. R. Jackson, M. T. Bedford, B. I. Welch, J. C. Hullinger, N. W. Hatfield, George A. Hall, F. M. Porch, G. W. Beers, H. Wassenberg, J. W. Hetrick, S. W. Long, I. S. Weible, W. F. Hire, W. T. Mitchner, J. Britson, O. D. Swartout, W. R. Cook, David Spangler and H. C. Boesche.

Six of the above named charter members have died, viz.: W. R. Jackson, I. S. Weible, J. W. Hetrick, David Spangler, A. Cahn and W. R. Cook, besides a few of those that became members afterward, the last death in this council being that of D. E. VanVoorhis, who died July 1, 1905.

The order has paid to the beneficiaries of the members of this council alone since its organization the sum of \$35,000. The National Union has always paid its death losses promptly, and is in a good healthy condition (financially) at the present time.

The present officers are: Tom M. Smith, president; A. S. Burt, vice president; H. C. Boesche, secretary; S. W. Long, financial secretary, and Joseph May, treasurer.

KNIGHTS OF THE MACCABEES.

Mackinaw Tent, No. 154, was organized in April, 1892, with the following charter members: W. W. Sherlock, W. W. Sterling, M. H. Standish, D. T. Johnson, J. A. Arnold, E. C. Ring, W. D. Drake, Dr. G. W. McGavren, E. J. Groce, W. W. Grindle, C. M. Higgin, W.

S. Little and James R. McIlvain. The Macca-bees are a beneficiary order. Mackinaw Tent has one of the best halls in Van Wert and has a large membership. Since its organization, there have been 10 deaths and \$14,000 has been paid out in death losses.

The present officers are: Commander, Ira E. Gamble; lieutenant commander, H. Pyrkey-pile; chaplain, James R. McIlvain; record keeper, G. H. Wappner; sergeant, A. W. Johnson; sentinel, Charles Leaser; picket, P. O. Shirlieff.

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA.

This order was organized on January 5, 1883, and has today a total membership of over 713,000, with \$1,200,000,000 insurance in force and 11,200 camps. There has been paid to beneficiaries the sum of \$35,800,000.

Forest Camp, No. 3281, was organized in Van Wert, October, 1, 1895, with the following officers: W. S. Johnson, venerable consul; W. H. Corbett, worthy advisor; John Webber, banker; W. R. Richardson, escort; W. E. Maddox, watchman; Charles Rhodes, sentry; Dr. A. B. Gilliland, physician; C. N. Grandstaff, Jacob Bohyer and Jacob Kissell, managers.

There are now 62 active members in good standing with the following officers: W. E. Coleman, venerable consul; John Webber, worthy advisor; H. Heyman, banker; A. C. Sheets, clerk; Dr. A. B. Gilliland, physician; Jacob Kissel, escort; Jacob Bohyer, sentry; William Humphreys, watchman; J. H. Fronefield, J. W. Reid and John Webber, managers.

THE HOME GUARDS OF AMERICA

Originated in Van Wert, Ohio, in the year 1899 as the result of the combined effort of two men, who have been intimately associated

with every phase of its progress since—Dr. G. J. Eblen, now supreme counselor, and J. W. Evans, now supreme secretary.

These gentlemen had for many years been connected with a number of the best assessment societies and had made a thorough study of the needs of the fraternal system.

While realizing the power for good of the older societies they were conscious of the need of something more substantial in the way of a fraternity wherein business principles should be combined with fraternal charity. After many months of deliberation and consultation they at length determined to organize a new fraternal society on a plan which would embody the ideas and principles which they had long advocated. They were earnest men with sincere convictions and high ideals of the mission of fraternity. Their ambition was to form a society which should safeguard the strongest fraternal ties with the strongest financial security.

They selected from their acquaintances five gentlemen who should form the board of managers or trustees as required by the statutes of Ohio. The following named citizens of Van Wert formed the first board of trustees or executive council: Hon. Hiram C. Glenn, Hugh V. Olney, Hon. James B. Smith, H. G. Lehmann, J. P. Reed, J. W. Evans and Dr. G. J. Eblen.

These gentlemen at once deposited the sum of \$5,000, as required by the laws of Ohio, to secure the payment of certificates of members who might die before the society was able to pay the claims out of its funds.

The first meeting was held on the evening of February 10th, at which time Alpha Home No. 1 was instituted by Hon. Hiram C. Glenn and Hon. James B. Smith.

The following officers were elected: Supreme counselor, Hiram C. Glenn; supreme

vice counselor, H. G. Lehmann; supreme secretary, J. W. Evans; supreme treasurer, Hugh V. Olney; supreme medical director, Dr. G. J. Eblen; supreme manager, James B. Smith.

The following table will show the growth of the order:

	Number of benefit certificates	Balance benefit and reserve fund	Amount claims paid
Dec. 31, 1899	1,222	\$ 7,631.61	\$ 1,020.00
Dec. 31, 1900	3,352	3,522.51	17,507.50
Dec. 31, 1901	4,809	8,538.65	36,942.00
Dec. 31, 1902	5,766	20,964.05	67,575.50
Dec. 31, 1903	7,208	36,415.34	105,074.80
Dec. 31, 1904	7,931	44,240.71	168,512.00
Dec. 31, 1905	8,908	47,713.58	237,174.30

On the day that the order was instituted, a reserve fund began to be laid aside to insure future stability. However, when in addition to this the "Expectancy Payment Plan" was adopted in 1901, the permanent character of the society was firmly established. Under this plan double assessments or failure are practically impossible. Each certificate when issued is charged with a definite amount. Each member knows just the amount which his certificate will yield to his beneficiary at death and just the amount that he will have to pay for it. The rates are high enough to enable the society to fulfill its contracts and the society will grow stronger and stronger as it grows older.

The present officers of the order are as follows: Supreme counselor, Dr. G. J. Eblen; supreme secretary, J. W. Evans; supreme treasurer, James B. Smith; supreme medical director, Dr. William P. Love; supreme attorney, G. M. Saltzgaber; supreme chaplain, H. F. MacLane; supreme vice counselor, A. L. Phillips; supreme past vice commander, Hugh V. Olney; supreme guide, J. V. Faudree; supreme conductor, R. P. Everly; supreme 1st shield, E. J. Walter; supreme 2nd shield, Mrs. Mary Riddle. The executive council is composed of the

following: Dr. G. J. Eblen, J. W. Evans, James B. Smith, G. M. Saltzgaber, H. F. MacLane, Dr. William P. Love, George H. Detlor and J. Q. Adams. The auditing committee has three members, namely: E. I. Antrim, Charles F. Manship and C. A. L. Purmort.

There are 125 homes in the following States—Ohio, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Michigan and Kentucky.

The objects of the society are to provide for the welfare of the widow and the orphan, to bring the sunshine of hope and courage into darkened lives. The brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God are taught without the members committing themselves to any form of religion or adopting any political faith. The order teaches that religion is a duty from man to his God; that patriotism is a duty from man to his country; but that fraternity is a duty of every man and every woman to every human being upon the face of the earth.

The history of the fraternal movement in this country has already been told. Its importance and the magnificent work now being accomplished need only to be known to be appreciated by the great American public. Since its organization in 1868 among the hills of Pennsylvania, fraternity has spread its protecting arms over ten million homes. Ten times a hundred million dollars have been paid in fraternal benefits to its members or their families. Five million people, representing the brain and the brawn of the great middle class of our country, are now looking to the fraternal system of insurance for the protection for their homes and their loved ones. In all these years its onward progress has received no check. Its victories are chanted in thousands of homes, but they are the victories of peace and not of war. They tell the story of little ones fed and clothed, of children educated, of mortgages paid and of homes saved to the family.

The Home Guards Temple, erected in Van Wert this year (1906) at a cost of \$75,000, a view of which appears on another page of this work, is a substantial structure 66 by 132 feet in ground dimensions and four stories high, and worthy of the great institution it represents.

THE TREWNAV CLUB

Of Van Wert, a social organization, comprised of 80 young business men, was organized in November, 1901, and ranks with the foremost societies of the kind in Northwestern Ohio. It has gained, as it richly deserves, the proud distinction abroad and maintains it with substantial support, backed by enduring friendship, at home. Its present quarters in the Scott Block, on South Washington street, will shortly be given up for a more commodious and better equipped home for the Home Guards Temple, on East Main street.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES.

Van Wert Aerie, No. 886, was instituted October 31, 1904, with 74 charter members, as follows: H. C. Engleright, Charles E. Lawhead, Lee R. Beatty, F. A. Gamble, J. W. Mullen, Louis Bien, Lee Cassel, James McDonald, C. P. Putman, W. C. Hamilton, John H. Wangemann, B. Harner, Otto Keller, M. D. Stewart, Charles Hott, George W. Fronefield, J. A. Webber, James M. Bowers, John Harner, W. N. Danner, C. C. Cook, I. A. Channel, C. A. Files, A. G. Jones, M. J. Lawhead, C. B.

Reid, B. L. Smith, Timothy Riley, Ed. V. Unser, Johnson Wilson, W. G. Cochrane, C. F. Klein, R. C. Flemming, Jacob Kissel, L. J. McLaughlin, Albert Beavo, J. F. Homan, John Guisman, R. R. Welch, G. W. Furrel, Carl Warner, F. A. Ruegsegger, John F. Greenewald, Frank J. Kohn, J. R. Baird, E. S. Balyeat, C. C. Lichty, C. D. Putman, Dan Cooney, A. S. Fagan, E. B. Chilcote, E. F. Vories, H. Mosure, Ed. Linser, Al Clay, C. A. Nation, C. R. Hire, W. J. Semple, A. F. Lindermann, Robert Cotton, James H. Reid, F. W. Reeve, M. A. Welch, Will Anstutz, C. C. Fronefield, W. C. Lawrence, I. W. Klein, P. W. Allen, John Eckfeld, John L. Ferguson, C. R. Beavo, Wilda Baird, H. M. Hyatt and C. J. Putman. The aerie now has a membership of 223.

The objects of the order are fraternal and protective. The benefits are: A sick benefit of \$1 per day for 10 weeks' sickness; a funeral benefit of \$75; and for all members in the corporation of Van Wert and their families the services of a doctor free of cost, while any member from the country can have the physicians' services free by calling at the office.

The officers of Van Wert Aerie are as follows: Past worthy president, F. A. Gamble; worthy president, Charles E. Lawhead; worth vice president, Giles W. Reeve; chaplain, Ura A. Channel; secretary, Lee R. Beatty; treasurer, Louis Bien; conductor, C. C. Lichty; inside guard, A. F. Lindermann; outside guard, D. V. Purdy; trustees—C. P. Putman, John F. Greenewald and Jacob Kissel; physician, Dr. Charles A. Files.

CHAPTER XXV

MILITARY HISTORY OF THE COUNTY

The County's Contribution to the Suppression of the Rebellion—A Brave Deed—The Strange Case of Hugh Thompson—The Squirrel Hunters—The Volunteers for the Spanish-American War—Van Wert's Militia Company.

WAR OF THE REBELLION—15th REGIMENT, O. V. I.

The 15th Ohio Infantry was one of the first regiments to respond to President Lincoln's first call for 75,000 men. Company E was raised in Van Wert on the 17th of April, 1861, proceeded to Columbus and went into camp at Camp Jackson. On the 4th of May it was incorporated with other companies into the 15th Regiment and ordered to Zanesville for the purpose of drilling and preparing for active service. It was then ordered to West Virginia and for a time was stationed along the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad—from Burton and Glover Gap to Grafton. It took part in the battles of Philippi, Laurel Hill, and Carrick's Ford and at the expiration of the term of enlistment was discharged, August 27, 1861.

At the next call for troops, the 15th reenlisted almost to a man. It was then reorganized at Camp Mordecai Bartley near Mansfield, after which it moved to Camp Dennison, September 26, 1861. On the 4th of October it was sent to Lexington, Kentucky, and a week later was moved by way of Louisville to Camp Nevin near Nolin station on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. It was here assigned to the

Sixth Brigade, commanded by Gen. R. W. Johnston of the Second Division under command of General Sherman. On the 9th of December, 1861, the division moved out to Bacon Creek, and the next day the brigade occupied Munfordville. On the 14th of February the division broke camp to move against Fort Donelson, but hearing of the capture of that fort a march was made to Bowling Green, and Nashville was reached on the 2nd of March. After a rest of a day or two they moved to Columbia, Tennessee, on the Duck River, where the rebels had blown up the railroad bridge. After repairing the bridge and building pontoons, the army was ordered to Savannah, Tennessee, and on the 6th of April at sunrise was within 30 miles of that city, when the report of cannon announced the opening of the battle of Shiloh. They immediately started in light marching order and reached Savannah at 11 o'clock the night of the 6th. Early in the morning of the 7th they landed by boat at Pittsburg Landing and marched at double quick out to the line of battle, where they lay in reserve from 9 A. M. until 11

o'clock when they relieved the 15th Regiment Regulars. They were actively engaged from that time until 4 P. M., when they made the final charge past the old Shiloh Church that drove the rear guard of the rebels from the field. In this engagement the regiment lost 6 men killed and 62 wounded. At Corinth the Second Division formed the reserve force and so did not move to the front until the 27th of May.

The division next marched to Battle Creek, Tennessee, where it arrived on the 18th of July. Here it remained until the 20th of August, when it moved to Altamont and from there to Nashville, which place was reached on the 8th of September. Again it took up the line of march and reached Louisville on the 25th. The division next pursued Bragg as far as Orchard Knob, and then marched to Nashville, arriving there November 7, 1862. On the 26th of December the army advanced upon Murfreesboro and in the battle of Stone River the 15th Ohio had 18 killed and 89 wounded.

On the 24th of July, 1863, an advance was made on Tullahoma and Shelbyville and in the engagements which followed the regiment took a very prominent part. The division afterward moved to Bellefonte, Alabama, which place was reached on August 22nd. On September 2nd the march was continued in the direction of Rome and on the 11th the division took position with the main army in Lookout Valley. Here the regiment occupied the extreme right flank until the morning of the 19th, when it marched for the battle-field of Chickamauga, and was engaged immediately on its arrival.

Later the regiment took part in the siege of Chattanooga and the assault on Mission Ridge. We next find it with the First Brigade, Third Division, Fourth Army Corps, marching to the relief of Knoxville, Tennessee, where it

arrived on the 8th of December. On the 20th the command moved to Strawberry Plains. In January, 1864, the greater portion of the regiment reenlisted and started for Columbus, Ohio, via Chattanooga, to receive furloughs. On the 10th of February the regiment reached Columbus 350 strong, and on the 12th the whole regiment was furloughed.

The regiment next appears at Camp Chase on the 4th of March, recruited to the strength of nearly 900 men. It reached Nashville in March and Chattanooga on the 5th of April. On the 8th it went to Cleveland, Tennessee, and on the 20th to McDonald station, where it remained until the spring campaign. On the 3rd of May camp was broken and the regiment joined the army of Sherman at Tunnel Hill. The regiment afterward participated in the battle of Resaca and in that of Dallas in which it lost 19 men killed, 3 officers and 61 privates wounded and 19 men missing, who were supposed to have been killed or desperately wounded. The color guard with the exception of one corporal were all killed or wounded but that one corporal, David Hart of Company I, brought the colors safely from the field. The army next moved to Kenesaw Mountain and on the 14th of June the regiment lost 1 man killed and 5 wounded from Company A. The regiment next crossed the Chattahoochee and finally appeared before Atlanta. After operating in the rear of Atlanta, the regiment was marched to the relief of Resaca and finally to Columbia. At Nashville the regiment formed the extreme left of the army. It next moved against the enemy's position on the Franklin pike. After following the enemy to Lexington, Alabama, it went into camp at Bird Springs. It next moved to New Market, Tennessee, in March and then to Greenville to guard against the escape of Lee and Johnston, who were being pressed by Grant and Sherman. In April

it was ordered back to Nashville, which place it reached about the first of May, 1865. Here the regiment lay in camp until the 16th of June, when it was ordered to Texas. On the 9th of July it reached Indianola, Texas, and the same night marched to Green Lake. Here the regiment lay until the 10th of August, when it marched toward San Antonio, Texas. On the 21st it reached Salado near San Antonio, where it lay until October 20th, when it entered upon post duty in the city.

Here the regiment remained until the 21st of November, when it was mustered out and ordered to Columbus, Ohio, for final discharge. Leaving San Antonio on the 24th of November the regiment reached Columbus, December 25th, and was discharged on the 27th, after a period of four years and eight months service. Counting the four months served under the first call, the total service was five years.

LOSSES.

KILLED AND DIED OF WOUNDS			DIED OF DISEASE OR IN PRISON			Total enrollment
Officers	Men	Total	Officers	Men	Total	
Field Staff	1	1	1		1	20
Company A. 1	8	12		12	12	158
" B.	22	22		16	16	171
" C.	15	15		9	9	163
" D. 1	24	25		17	17	165
" E.	19	19		14	14	163
" F. 1	17	18		13	13	167
" G.	23	23		9	9	157
" H.	24	24		16	16	171
" I.	10	10		16	16	166
" K. 1	9	10		13	13	153
7	172	179	1	135	136	1,654

Killed in
- Battle

Shiloh, Tennessee	16
Stone River, Tennessee	36
Liberty Gap, Tennessee	11
Chickamauga, Georgia	23
Mission Ridge, Tennessee	6
Buzzard's Roost, Georgia	2
Resaca, Georgia	4
Pickett's Mills, Georgia	39
Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia	3
Kenesaw Mountain, Tenn., June 20.	1
Kenesaw Mountain, Tenn., June 21.	13

Killed in
Battle

Kenesaw Mountain, Tenn., June 23.	7
Kenesaw Mountain, Tenn., June 27.	3
Peach Tree Creek, Georgia	2
Atlanta, Georgia, July 22	2
Lovejoy Station, Georgia	2
Siege of Atlanta, Georgia	2
Nashville, Tennessee	7

The total killed, wounded and died of disease in the 15th Regiment was 683, or 41.3 per cent., 20 having died in Confederate prisons. Company H had killed and died of disease 23.4 per cent. Company I had killed, wounded and died of disease 50.9 per cent.

The following is taken from Col. W. F. Fox's "Famous Divisions and Brigades."

"The two brigades in the Western Army are Steadman's First Brigade, Second Division, Fourth Corps (killed and mortally wounded during the war 1,192), and Willich's First Brigade, Wood's Third Division, Fourth Corps (killed and mortally wounded during the war, 1,115), and are only compared with two or three brigades in the Eastern Army that lost an equal percentage and theirs included their missing."

The 15th and 49th Ohio belonged to Willich's brigade.

ROSTER OF COMPANY E, 15TH REG., O. V. I.

It enlisted April 17, 1861, for the three months service and was mustered out at Wapakoneta on August 27th. It took part in the following battles: Philippi, June 3, 1861; Laurel Hill, July 8, 1861; and Carrick's Ford, July 14, 1861:

	AGE.
Israel D. Clark, captain.	41
Charles B. Smith, 1st lieutenant.	21
Ralston Craig, 2nd lieutenant.	27
Thaddeus S. Gilliland, 1st sergeant.	26
Norman K. Brown, 2nd sergeant.	27
Lewis High, 3rd sergeant.	35

	AGE		AGE
Thomas J. Clark, 4th sergt.	19	Patrick Kelly, private	32
Henry Ruth, 1st corp.	20	Joseph Kennedy, private	21
Joseph R. Updegrove, 2nd corp.	22	David King, private	19
James J. Merrick, 3rd corp.	20	John Knox, private	21
Blinn L. Snow, 4th corp.	23	Jacob B. Lewis, private	19
Samuel H. Holtry, 5th corp.	21	Tillman F. Lewis, private	23
Emery R. Underwood, musician	26	William J. Loring, private	18
Joshua W. Heath, musician	27	Henry Lutes, private	21
Isaac N. Alexander, private	28	William McClure, private	19
Nathan H. Balding, private	19	Albert O. Marsh, private	23
Harrison Ball, private	19	Calvin Miller, private	19
Jesse T. Beacher, private	27	George Miller, private	21
Calvin Billings, private	26	John B. Mohr, private	20
Alonzo Bowdle, private	23	Charles C. Moore, private	22
William C. Bowdle, private	21	Calvin Morehead, private	22
Harrison C. Brown, private	20	Henry D. Morris, private	20
James Brown, private	25	William M. Morris, private	33
John S. Brown, private	22	Silas Mullen, private	23
Madison M. Brown, private	23	William Nessler, private	18
William O. Brown, private	20	Charles S. Post, private	24
Henry Butler, private	22	Isaac B. Post, private	21
Josiah T. Cable, private	23	Edward L. Quick, private	23
Josiah Clark, private	28	David S. Redelsheimer, private	24
Lewis Conant, private	30	Thomas J. Saltzgeber, private	22
Joseph A. Conn, private	28	Alexander Scott, private	19
Simeon B. Conn, private	29	Jacob Shoemaker, private	21
George Conrad, private	19	Henry Shuttle, private	20
Augustus W. Cupp, private	23	Joseph A. Simpson, private	19
Jacob Davis, private	25	Amos Smith, private	21
Waldo T. Davis, private	21	Emanuel Stansberry, private	20
Newton W. Dempsey, private	17	John W. Steel, private	28
Oliver Eagy, private	19	Truman Steinmates, private	21
Franklin Emerson, private	38	John Stonemetz, private	30
David Eavers, private	23	Charles P. Sweet, private	20
Caleb Fish, private	19	Benjamin C. Swineford, private	19
Joseph Fisher, private, discharged at Philippi	30	James W. Toland, private	19
Andrew Froelich, private	22	Wesley Walters, private	19
George W. Gates, private	22	Elijah W. Wilson, private	26
Charles W. Goss, private	21	Albert M. Wright, private	22
Isaac W. Groscoat, private	24		
James W. Hamilton, private	21		
Hiel B. Heart, private, discharged June 6, 1861	20		
John M. Hayes, private	41		
Edward H. Hearn, private	27		
James A. H. Highland, private	21		
George W. Himmelmreich, private, died at Burton June 6, 1861	24		
Lavius F. Hinson	24		
Asa Hoyt, private	19		
David Hoyt, private	23		
Henry P. Holmes, private	21		
Thomas Hurrberger, private	20		
Wilson Johnson, private	20		

ROSTER OF COMPANY H, 15TH REG., O. V. I.

Thaddeus S. Gilliland, captain, age 26, resigned May, 1862.

William C. Scott, 1st lieut., age 28, resigned May 26, 1862, to accept captain's comm. in 99th reg. O. V. I.

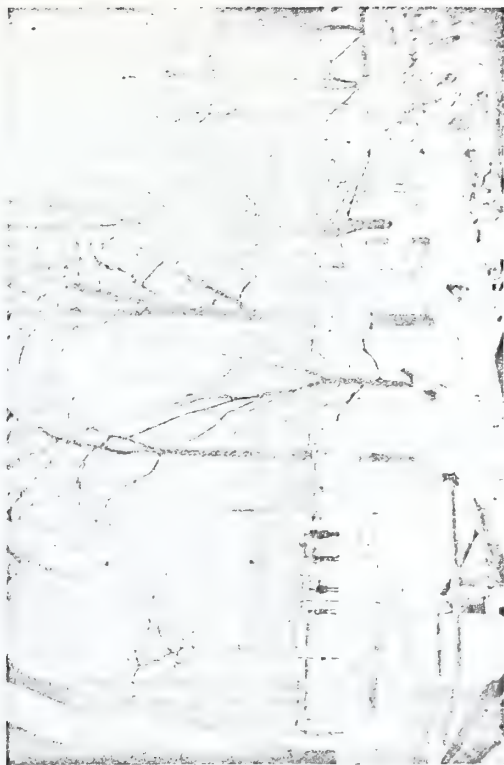
Gladwin B. Chapin, 2nd lieut., age 22, resigned Dec. 18, 1861.

Joseph R. Updegrove, 1st sergt., age 23, promoted to 1st lieut. May 26, 1862; wounded at Chickamauga Sept. 19, 1863; promoted to captain, Nov. 21, 1863; wounded at Pickett's Mills.

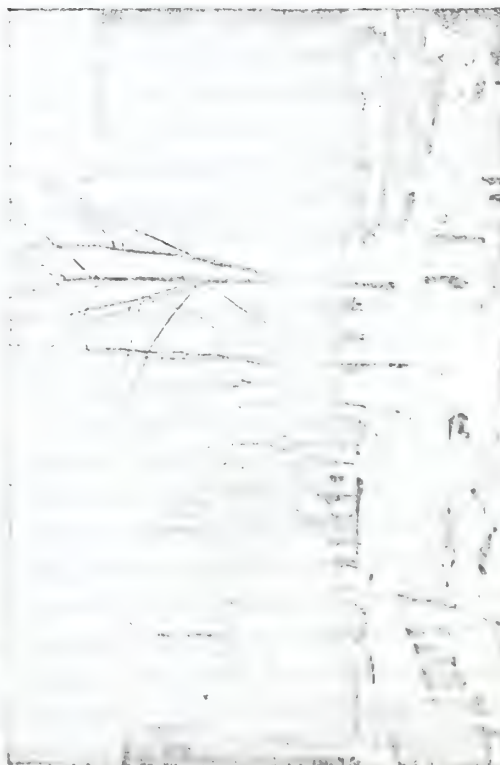
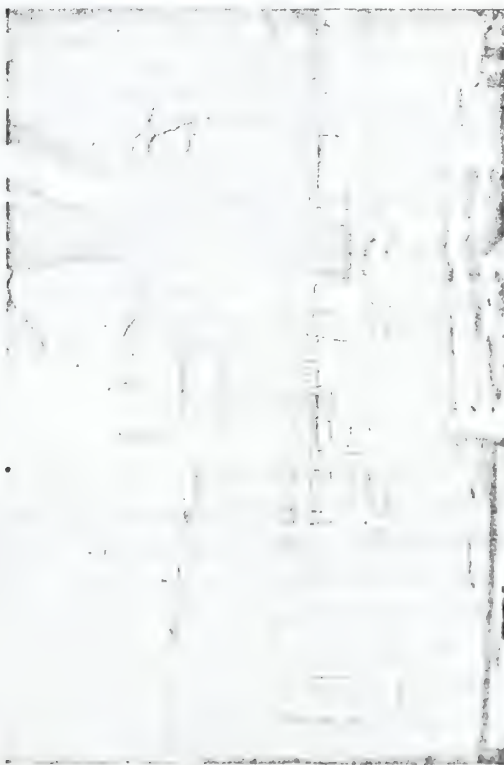
Alonzo J. Gleason, 2nd sergt., age 27; promoted to

- 2nd lieutenant. July 7, 1862; to 1st lieutenant. March, 1864; to captain Jan., 1865.
- John Capper, 3rd sergeant, age 25; captured at Chickamauga, after being wounded Sept. 20, 1862.
- Eli N. Peters, 4th sergeant, age 24.
- Armstrong, Franklin, private, age 18; Appointed corporal June, 1862; sergeant. April, 1864; 1st sergeant, May, 1864; comm. sergeant, February, 1865; 2nd lieutenant, February, 1865; 1st lieutenant, March, 1865.
- Angevine, William, private, age 18; wounded Dec. 31, 1862, at Stone River.
- Ainsworth, William S., private, age 30; died May 27, 1862 at Corinth, Miss.
- Barr, John M., private, age 20; appointed corporal April, 1864; sergeant, June, 1864.
- Batts, Enoch H., private, age 21; appointed corporal, January, 1863; sergeant, May 1864; killed at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1867.
- Baltzell, Joseph, private, age 18; appointed corporal, April, 1864; sergeant, April, 1865.
- Bowen, Cyrus, private, age 18; injured in R. R. accident April, 1864; appointed corporal, April, 1864; wounded at Pickett Mills, 1864.
- Ball, Harrison, private, age 19.
- Baltzell, Henry, private, age 18.
- Beamer, Philip, private, age 23; wounded at Shiloh April 7, 1862, and at Stone River December 31, 1862; killed at Chickamauga September 9, 1862.
- Beavo, John, private, age 19; killed at Resaca, Ga., May 15, 1864.
- Balding, William G., private, age 19; captured at Stone River, paroled and captured at Chickamauga.
- Beamer, Henry, private, age 20; Wounded at Resaca May 14, 1864.
- Beiler, Cicero, private, age 24.
- Bigelow, Elihu, private, age 40.
- Blosser, William, private, age 23.
- Bright, William, private, age 18.
- Brodnix, James B., private, age 27.
- Black, Adam, private, age 20; wounded at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864.
- Bugbee, Scott J., private, age 18; enrolled as Scott instead of Bugbee; died Dec. 13, 1861, at Elizabethtown, Ky.
- Crates, William, private, age 27, appointed corporal, January 1863; wounded at Stone River December 31, 1862.
- Capper, David, private, age 20; wounded at Stone River, December 31, 1862; appointed corporal, September, 1862; sergeant, April, 1864; wounded at Pickett's Mills and died from his wounds.
- Chaney E., private, age 24.
- Clark, Alfred, private, age 20.
- Cook, Watson R., private, age 24; wounded at Resaca, Ga., May 14, 1864.
- Crapo, Asa T., private, age 34; captured at Stone River, December 31, 1862.
- Cupp, Peter B., private, age 18; captured at Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862.
- Cupp, Augustus W., private, age 23.
- Clifton, Daniel, private, age 38.
- Cremean, Reuben, private, age 19, wounded at Shiloh, April 7, 1862; died from his wounds.
- Crane, William, private, age 21; wounded at Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862; died from his wounds.
- Clark, Josiah, private, age 21.
- Crates, Henry, private, age 23; wounded at battle of Nashville, Dec. 16, 1864.
- Clark, Noah, private, age 23.
- Crates, Vincent, private, age 18.
- Conn, William M., private, age 23.
- Deniston, William H., private, age 20; wounded at Shiloh.
- Davis, Thomas J., private, age 24.
- DeCamp, Andrew E., private, age 21.
- DeCamp, Job, private, age 18.
- DeCamp, Wm. H., private, age 20.
- Daniels, Abraham, private, age 19; died May 27, 1862, at St. Louis, typhoid fever.
- Daugherty, William H., private, age 20; captured at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864; died in Andersonville prison, Aug. 24, 1864.
- Evers, Elias, private, age 21; killed at Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862.
- Evers, Milton B., private, age 19.
- Edison, Emery S., private, age 20; missing at Pickett's Mills; no further record.
- Fastnaught, Elias, private, age 34.
- Flagg, Henry J., private, age 19; wounded at Mission Ridge, Nov. 25, 1863.
- Farrington, John, private, age 18; died Dec. 27, 1861, at Elizabethtown, Ky.
- Fisher, James, private, age 19.
- Gleason, Andrew J., private, age 24.
- Gamble, Robert, private, age 22.
- Gates, George W., private, age 23; wounded at Shiloh.
- Gaugue, Lewis, private; died June 25, 1864, at Chattanooga, Tenn.
- Glenn, William D., private, age 21; died Sept. 9, 1862, at Nashville, Tenn.
- Hamilton, Simeon, private, age 18; captured at Pickett's Mills; appointed corporal, May 28, 1864.
- Hunter, Silas S., private, age 18.
- Haines, Thomas J., private, age 33.
- Humerickhouse, William, private, age 23.
- Harvey, Obadiah H., private, age 41.
- Hoaglin, Enoch M., private, age 50.
- Hughes, William J., private, age 37.
- Haverstick, Chris. M., private, age 25; wounded at Mission Ridge, Nov. 25, 1863.

- Harnley, Chris. R., private, age 21; wounded at Shiloh, April 7, 1862; died of his wounds at St. Louis.
- Jewell, Leslie, private, age 18.
- Jewell, Smith, private, age 28.
- Jewell, Wesley, private, age 19.
- Johnson, Pelham, private, age 23; wounded at Liberty Gap, June 25, 1863; died June 7, 1864, at Ackworth, Ga., from wounds received at Pickett's Mills.
- Jackson, James A., private, age 18; wounded at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864.
- Kesler, Jacob, private, age 28.
- Kiser, Edward, private, age 23.
- Kiser, Jacob, private, age 27.
- Knittle, William, private, age 22.
- Lewis, Nathan, private, age 18.
- Longwell, Henry, private, age 18.
- Lovejoy, Samuel, private, age 35.
- Lutes, Henry, private, age 22; died Dec. 27, 1862, at New Albany, Ind.
- Lewis, William J., private, age 18; missing at battle of Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864.
- McBride, Simon P., private, age 18; accidentally injured April 11, 1864.
- Miles, Thomas, private, age 22.
- McCullough, John, private, age 39.
- Myers, Henry, private, age 18.
- McLellen, William H., private, age 22.
- Melchi, John, private, age 19; killed at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864.
- Morris, John P., private, age 35; wounded at Atlanta, July 28, 1864.
- Miller, John G., private, age 42.
- Martin, William W., private, age 19; captured at Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, 1863; died in Andersonville Prison.
- Mills, George, private, age 25; wounded and captured at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864; died June 7, 1864 of wounds.
- Miller, Alexander, private, age 20; died Dec. 18, 1861, at Louisville, Ky.
- Myers, George, private, age 18; wounded at Shiloh, April 7, 1862.
- Morris, Joseph, private, age 27.
- Norman, Daniel, private, age 35; appointed corp., Feb. 1, 1865.
- Narrius, James, private, age 43.
- Narrius, Joseph, private, age 18; killed accidentally near Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 10, 1862.
- Miner, David N., private, age 22, appointed corp., Dec. 21, 1864.
- Mumaugh, Nathan, private, age 18; appointed corp., May 27, 1862; sergt., April 4, 1862; 1st sergt., April 24, 1864; killed at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864.
- Morehead, Calvin, private, age 22; appointed corp., Nov., 1862; captured at Stone River, Dec. 21, 1862; appointed sergt., May 28, 1864; 1st sergt., March 12, 1865.
- Miller, Henry, private, age 30; appointed corp., Aug. 10, 1865.
- Martin, Columbus R., private, age 18.
- Milner, Joseph F., private, age 18.
- O'Connell, John, private, age 25.
- Payne, William H., private, age 20; wounded at Nashville, Dec. 16, 1864.
- Place, George, private, age 20.
- Place, James, private, age 18.
- Priddy Seabury N. E., private, age 20.
- Priddy, Smith H., private, age 22.
- Pier, Franklin, private, age 18; appointed corp., March 18, 1865.
- Pier, William H., private, age 18; wounded at Stone River; appointed corp., Jan. 1, 1863.
- Quick, Edward L., private, age 24; appointed sergt., July 7, 1862.
- Rhodes, Wilson S., private, age 24; appointed sergt., April, 1864; sergt., March, 1865.
- Royce, Edward R., private, age 29.
- Royce, Edwin, private, age 29.
- Rhodes, Parker J., private, age 18; wounded at Pickett's Mills.
- Roberts, John A., private, age 20; wounded at Pickett's Mills.
- Russy, Aaron, private, age 18.
- Rhodes, Benjamin, private, age 20.
- Richey, William, private, age 18.
- Rhoades, William J., private, age 41; died from wounds received in action at Kenesaw Mountain.
- Rowland, William, private, age 22; died Sept., 1864, at Van Wert, O.
- Roop, John, private, age 27.
- Schutchall, George M., private, age 19.
- Stewart, Andrew J., private, age 23.
- Stewart, Edward, private, age 21.
- Stewart, Andrew Z., private, age 23.
- Stuckey, John F., private, age 16.
- Shurtleff, Hiram, private, age 18; wounded at Pickett's Mills, Ga., May 27, 1864.
- Stanton, Daniel, private, age 28, wounded and missing at Chickamauga, Sept. 19, 1863; no further record.
- Scott, Luke W., private, age 20.
- Sevin, James Y., private, age 37.
- Shaw, Oliver P., private, age 18; wounded at Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, 1863.
- Shively, David W., private, age 18.
- Smith, John, private, age 23.
- Stauffer, Abraham, private, age 19; in hospital at New Albany, Ind.
- Stewart, Zachariah, private, age 25.



SCENES IN THIRD WARD PARK



SCENES IN FOURTH WARD PARK

THE FLOOD OF FEBRUARY, 1883, IN VAN WERT

Sutton, Milton, private, age 25.
 Taylor, James, private, age 18.
 Tenner, John, private, age 25.
 Thompson, Hugh, private, age 19; wounded and missing at Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 19, 1862.
 Thompson, Joshua, private, age 28.
 Timbers, George, private, age 22.
 Timbers, Eli, private: wounded and captured at Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862; appointed corp., April 24, 1864; wounded at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864.
 Todd, George T., private, age 20.
 Tullis, William H., private, age 22.
 Tumbleson, Daniel, private, age 31.
 Updegrove, James L., private, age 18; wounded at Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862; appointed corp., April 4, 1863; killed at Pickett's Mills.
 Vaugh, George, private, age 21.
 Welch, Lyman W., private, age 28.
 Whisner, William, private, age 19.
 Webber, Samuel F., private, age 18; missing at Chattanooga, Ga., Sept. 20, 1863.
 Wortman, James, private, age 29; wounded and missing at Pickett's Mills, Ga., May 27, 1864; no further record.
 Warren, John B., private, age 30; accidentally injured, May 14, 1864.
 Wheeler, George C., private, age 26.
 Willer, Robert, private, age 30; wounded at Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, 1863; died October 21, 1863, of wounds received at Nashville.
 Wise, Henry H., private, age 20; died Feb. 26, 1863 from wounds received at Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862.
 Wortman, Aaron, private, age 23; died March 31, 1863, at Reg. Hospital at Murfreesboro.
 Wortman, Jacob, private, age 25; died Nov. 24, 1862, at Nashville, Tenn.
 Yale, Amos, private, age 20; killed in battle at Pickett's Mills, May 27, 1864.

A BRAVE DEED.

During the Atlanta campaign between Big Shanty and Kenesaw Mountain, the 15th Ohio Infantry was on picket duty. In the evening orders were given to take off all the new recruits and put on only the old tried men.

The night of June 18th and morning of the 19th, Peter B. Cupp and Milton B. Evers of Company H, 15th Ohio Infantry, were on one post. They would fire in the direction of the

rebel's picket line and the rebels would reply. About three o'clock in the morning the rebels ceased to reply to picket firing. Cupp, believing that the rebels were withdrawing and knowing that early information to that effect would be of immense benefit to the Union Army started out to reconnoiter. After going about a half mile, he came to the deserted rifle-pits and then to the rebel fort that had engaged in the artillery duel the day before. But all was quiet here. He pushed on for some distance till he came to the hastily deserted camp of the enemy, the fires still smoldering. Here he met and captured two Irishmen belonging to the 26th Georgia, who were deserting. He then started back with his prisoners for the picket line, knowing that the information that he and his prisoners could give would be of immense value. But as he passed to the left of the fort he came face to face with Company D, Second Georgia Heavy Artillery, Capt. S. Yates Levy and Lieutenant Cummins and 16 men (they were just from Mobile, Alabama). They were marching left in front, the lieutenant in command. The lieutenant halted Cupp and demanded that he surrender. This Cupp refused to do, and told them they were within the Union lines and that two regiments had gone around to the right of the fort. Here he called upon his prisoners to confirm his story, and as they did not wish to be taken back they said that it was true.

The lieutenant then said "Captain, we are gobbled up now." Cupp then demanded their surrender and told them to have their men ground arms, which was done. He then took the officers' swords and revolvers and ordered them to march toward the Union lines. As soon as it became light, the artillery commenced firing over their heads and the captain remarked, "Young man, your men certainly are not aware of the conditions out here," referring

to the two regiments being out by the fort. To this Cupp replied, "Those guns were loaded in the rain yesterday and it is easier to fire them than draw the loads." This quieted their suspicions and they soon came to the picket line, and to their great surprise and humiliation learned that instead of being within the Union lines they were a half mile in front of our picket lines when captured. For nerve and presence of mind this certainly equals anything in the annals of warfare. It was a close squeeze out of a tight place.

General Gibson, hearing of it, sent for Cupp and said, "Cupp, how did you do it?" To which Cupp replied, "General, I was drilling under General Willich's tactics and I threw myself into a hollow square and surrounded them."

Cupp was a favorite of General Gibson from that day and he never failed to inquire for him when meeting Van Wert people.

HUGH THOMPSON.

The story of Hugh Thompson, a member of Company H, 15th Ohio Infantry, is as strange as fiction and yet as real as the experience of any of our lives.

In the battle of Chickamauga Hugh Thompson was wounded in the head by a grape-shot. Joseph Baltzell, a comrade near him, noticing that Hugh was wounded and not being able to get an answer from him, picked up his cap and feeling something in it found the grape-shot in the cap. It being dark, he felt of Hugh's head and found a wound on the top of the head over the right ear, passing to about the center of the head and then turning to the right toward the front. He ran his finger along the wound to see if the skull was injured. He then put Hugh's cap on his head, gave him the grape-shot and told him to keep it. He then put Hugh's rifle into his hands assisted him to

his feet and told him to come on, as the regiment had been ordered to fall back. He noticed that Hugh seemed to be kind of dazed but thought he would be all right. When morning came, however, Hugh was missing. It was supposed that he had fallen into the hands of the enemy, but not being reported among the prisoners he was given up as dead.

Nothing was heard of Hugh Thompson by his old comrades for many years until a letter was received, asking if a Henry Thompson had volunteered from Van Wert County, and stating that a Henry Thompson living in Kansas thought he had volunteered from some place in Ohio, but had no distinct recollection of the place or regiment. A farther correspondence elicited the fact that he was not certain as to his name, only that he had a Testament with the name "H. Thompson" written in it. The only distinct recollection that he had was that of being out in a severe snowstorm, almost chilled to death, and of coming to a farm house where the people took him in and cared for him.

He wandered from place to place working at whatever he could get to do. He finally took up a homestead near Harper, Kansas. He was anxious to find out who he was, and where his friends and relatives lived. He recollected going to where there was a large body of water, and he made trips along Lake Erie but could not recognize any place. The Grand Army of the Republic post at his home in Kansas took an interest in his case and sent a full description of him, giving marks that would help his friends identify him, one being two fingers that had been injured, another a large scar on one ankle and a third a scar on the forehead. John Acheson, a man that had worked with him, recollected his having mashed his fingers while loading stone at a stone quarry, and that he had put a chew of tobacco on it, tying up the wound with the pocket of his roundabout, which

he tore out for the purpose. The scar on the ankle he recollected was made with a broad-axe in hewing and that he had carried Thompson to the house and nursed him while confined to his bed. The scar in the forehead some of his schoolmates remembered was made while playing at school. Thus he was fully indentified by his old associates.

Thompson's recollections were very indistinct. He said he had lived with an Uncle Nat, and that he thought there was a building in which they hung up hoes, rakes, cradles and scythes, and that there was a large door with a smaller one in the large one.

The descriptions though vague, were sufficient to induce the Grand Army post at Van Wert to send money to bring him here. He was not able to recognize any person. When he was taken out to his Uncle Nat's (Nathaniel Hattery), they found the granary as he had described, with the farm implements. The small door in the large one was in the barn. After looking around, he said there was an apple tree that had split and one part had lain on the ground but still bore apples. The family on the farm said there had never been such a tree in the orchard. They then went to another uncle on an adjoining farm and there the apple tree was, just as it had been before the war. He had but little recollection of his boyhood days. He said he recollected playing with two neighbor girls, one of whom had red hair and the other black. These were his nearest neighbors, and were recognized. He said "But where is the large body of water?" Some of those present recollected that he had been with a party that had gone to the Grand Reservoir fishing, which explained why he had searched along Lake Erie for his home. He had no recollection of being wounded but remembered being led between two men and coming to a tunnel. He said they did not enter the

tunnel but walked on and it began to get dark, so dark that he could no longer see the men that were leading him. That was the last moment of consciousness until he seemed to wake up in Indiana seven years afterward. He had a cap, such as he wore in the army, and the Testament with the name "H. Thompson" written on the fly leaf that suggested to him his name.

Application was made for a pension and a special examiner was sent. After a thorough investigation he was granted a pension. He was then a man 45 years old, having been 19 when he entered the army, and few of his comrades could recognize him. But this is not surprising, as he had lost his teeth and was prematurely old. His descriptive roll was all right, being only a quarter of an inch shorter in height.

His mind is not entirely clouded, yet he has a guardian to look after his interests and attend to his finances.

Such is the sad picture of the life of Hugh Thompson, who gave more than his life for his country.

46TH REGIMENT, O. V. I.

This regiment was organized at Camp Worthington, near Columbus, Ohio. Three Companies A E and K, were largely made up in Van Wert and the northern part of Mercer County. It left Camp Chase for the field February 18, 1862, with 975 men and on the 22nd reported at Paducah, Kentucky. It was assigned with the Sixth Iowa and the 14th Illinois to General Sherman's division. The regiment with four companies of the 40th Illinois reached Savannah, Tennessee, on the 8th of March and lay within eight miles of the enemy at Pittsburg Landing until the main army arrived four days later. The regiment was posted on the right of Shiloh Church, when Sherman

moved up to Pittsburg Landing. On the 5th of April, 1862, Companies B and K were on picket and found the enemy feeling the line throughout the night. In the morning of the 6th the rebel columns were seen deploying in the distance, and at sunrise a rebel cavalry officer emerged from the timber within 30 yards of the picket line where, standing a moment, he inquired, "are these Union pickets?" With the affirmative answer he was told to advance and surrender, but turned his horse away and was shot dead by the unerring rifle of Sergeant Glenn of Van Wert, who was also killed before the day was done. The regiment participated throughout the day and sustained a loss of 280 killed and wounded and 15 prisoners.

On the 27th the army left the field for Corinth. The season was spent along the line of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad and at Memphis, and in November the regiment started on a campaign through Mississippi under Grant. About 100 miles out, they were compelled to return to Holly Springs to establish communications. The regiment was again stationed on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad and was largely engaged in raiding Northern Mississippi. In June, 1863, it moved to Vicksburg and took part in the siege that followed. The city capitulated on the 4th of July and the regiment marched toward Jackson and at 11 P. M. halted near Big Black River. Companies E and K were sent forward to Berdsong's Ferry, where they found signs of the enemy in front. Gen. Joseph E. Johnston with his army on the way to relieve Vicksburg, already fallen, was on the opposite side of the river and in the morning opened fire on the two companies, which gallantly sustained their position but at heavy loss. The army came up and pushed Johnston into Jackson and after several days of fighting forced him from the

city, when the regiment returned to the Big Black River and went into camp.

On October 10th the regiment with the 15th Army Corps under General Sherman embarked for Memphis and from there marched to the relief of Chattanooga, which place was reached on the 20th of November. It next appeared in the battle of Mission Ridge, where it sustained heavy loss, and then entered the Knoxville campaign, afterward going into winter quarters at Scottsboro, Alabama. Here the regiment was supplied with Spencer rifles and the men reenlisted as veterans. In March it was given a furlough and reported again at Scottsboro. It next moved out in May and on the 13th, 14th and 15th engaged in the battle of Resaca and then went to Dallas.

In June the regiment with the division moved to the left and relieved the Second and Third brigades of General Geary's division of the 20th Army Corps. Here the regiment gallantly participated in the battle of New Hope Church. On the 6th of June the brigade passed Ackworth and camped until the 9th, when it moved to the vicinity of Kenesaw Mountain and rejoined its division. During the movements which followed, the brigade was held in reserve until the 15th, when it was ordered to the extreme left of the army. Here the 46th with its brigade, supported by the other brigades of the division, charged a line of the ridge a half mile distant. This was done so gallantly that 22 officers, 400 men and 600 stand of arms were captured. The division was then placed in the reserve until the 25th, when it took position at the base of Kenesaw Mountain and engaged in skirmishing. On the 26th Wolcott's brigade, with two brigades of General Smith's division, was detailed as a storming party. The next day Wolcott's brigade led the column with the 46th in the advance as skirmishers. In this assault the

regiment captured 60 prisoners but suffered heavily in killed and wounded. After the battle the regiment moved to the Chattahoochee and finally to Rosswell's factory, where it forced a crossing on the 15th of July. On the 19th it moved toward Atlanta and on the evening of the 20th entered the line in front of the city. Here the regiment skirmished until the 22nd, when it assisted in repelling the attack on the 17th Corps. Wolcott's brigade was posted on the left of the 15th Corps and when the engagement opened the brigade faced from the west to the south, partially closing a gap between the 15 and 17th corps. The troops on the right were forced from their position and the enemy gained the rear, while another column in the front was repulsed and that in the rear was captured, and the 46th had the honor of retaking a battery of Parrott guns captured by the rebels earlier in the day. Again at Ezra Church the regiment was engaged, being called to the support of the Third Brigade. During the battle a rebel prisoner informed the officer of the regiment that he was a member of the 13th Louisiana and had confronted the 46th at Pittsburg Landing. This was made known to the men and they redoubled their energies and captured the colors of the 13th Louisiana and assaulted with such impetuosity that the colonel with 10 officers and half his men were killed. The flag, which was a present from the ladies of New Orleans, was presented by Gen. John A. Logan to its immediate captor, Harry Davis, and by him was contributed to the trophies of the State of Ohio. The regiment was employed in skirmishing until the 26th of August, when it participated with Sherman in his flank movement on Jonesboro. On the afternoon of the 29th the rebels led an attack. Three companies of the 46th were on skirmish duty and the others in the reserve. The skirmishers held their ground

until the enemy passed their flank, when they formed the reserve. The reserve had orders to charge the rebel line as soon as it showed any signs of wavering. This was done and 4 officers and 50 men were captured. On the 2nd of September the regiment was again engaged and captured the fortified skirmish line of the enemy. It then followed Hardin's retreating army until a halt was made near Lovejoys station, and the 46th was deployed in front of General Corse's division of the 17th Corps, the 66th Illinois was deployed and an advance ordered. The enemy was forced to retire and the army went into camp at East Point near Atlanta.

After participating in the campaign against Hood, the regiment returned to the vicinity of Atlanta on the 5th of November. On the 15th it started for Savannah and was engaged in the movements about Macon and finally in the skirmishes around Savannah. After the fall of the city, the regiment embarked, January 10, 1865, for Beaufort, South Carolina. On the 27th it took up the line of march and, reaching Bentonville, was engaged, charged the enemy, captured and held his works and received special compliments for gallantry. At Raleigh the news of Lee's surrender was received, and shortly after General Johnston surrendered to General Sherman. The regiment then moved to Washington City and on the 14th of May participated in the Grand Review, after which it went to Louisville, Kentucky, where it was mustered out of the service, July 22, 1865, a term of service in which it lost 20 men captured and 705 men killed and wounded or died of disease.

The 46th Regiment had a large number of recruits from this county, whose names are given below:

Company A.—James Allen, Morris Alger, John W. Andrews, William G. Andrews, Alvin

H. Brown, Samuel A. Brown, Abram B. Brown, John Boroff, John Book, Philip Beinz, Henry G. Beatty, Andrew S. Baker, Henry Brink, David Balden, Aquilla Crogan, Perry J. Cure, William Custer, George Custer, Christian Coble, D. P. Dunathan, William Dixon, Washington Evans, Andrew J. Freshour, Thomas J. Freshour, Collin Fox, John Hippard, Leonard Houts, Henry Houts, James W. Hamilton, Benjamin Hartzog, Amos Knough, Samuel Knough, W. H. H. King, James S. Lindsay, Nathan Lemunion, Joseph Little, James H. Moore, Silas B. Mortimer, William More, Thomas McGlaughton, Lewis F. Ross, David M. Riley, Nathaniel Roush, Albert L. Rucket, William E. Sill, Philip Siller, Abraham M. Truby, Harrison Wilson, Joseph Woolery and John Walbourn.

Company E.—John S. Brown, Samuel Brown, David Belden, Henry Barton, Frederick Boyer, Henry Beackel, Jacob Beam, Elias Barker, Samuel Bower, Baldwin H. Clark, Sidney Dague, Henry Hanson, John D. Hickernell, James P. Hickernell, Mathew W. Heller, John Hankers, William Jones, John H. Mehm, Peter Moore, John A. Martin, Christopher C. Nichols, William Pontius, Calvin Park, James H. Roberts, Henry Scharending, Christopher Shaffer, William Stove and Dennis Wade.

Company G.—Laurens B. Shaffer.

Company I.—John W. Clempson, Henry B. Fallagher and John Mullen.

Company K.—John Acheson, Samuel H. Alexander, Jackson Balding, Bernard Balding, W. O. Bowdle, Benjamin Baltzell, Jackson Boroff, James Bennett, Benjamin Baltzell, Philip Beinz, John Brown, Frederick Brorein, Patrick Brady, Archibald Casteel, Michael Conlon, Calvin Casteel, Davis Clemson, Amos Clemson, Tier Coates, Leander B. Dayman, Isaac Dillbone, W. W. DeMoss, Abraham DeLong,

W. W. Dennison, Peter Dunifon, Nathaniel Dunifon, S. F. Dix, James Doseward, Robert N. Deal, Isaac Delbone, George W. Darnell, Otho Fox, William Greaves, John Geesler, Robert W. Gamble, C. E. Graham, Reuben W. Gamble, James Gordon, Philip B. Glenn, Jonathan Hireck, Jacob Hair, James Herrod, Martin Hipshire, Melancthon Hughes, John Miller, John Miller, Levi More, James H. Moore, George Miller, Andrew Miller, Davis Morehead, Henry Morehead, Henry Hipshire, James W. Hamilton, Henry Houts, George Huffman, Levi J. Huffman, John Holland, Leonard Houtz, William Hewing, Daniel Hipshire, James Hipshire, Benjamin Houck, Obadiah Hall, Cyrus Houck, Daniel Hummel, W. E. Ireland, Robert Ireland, Elihu Ireland, Emanuel Jackson, Edward Johnson, Robert Jones, Joseph A. Jones, Peter Kline, Tilman F. Lewis, Nathan Lewis, W. H. Laird, William H. Lott, Chester Lee, Isma Malick, John F. McCullough, Samuel Miller, David Magner, J. E. Morrison, Stephen L. Mead, Calvin Miller, Enos North, James Prichard, Nicholas Potts, John S. Penn, Jacob Pratzler, Laborn Prince, Charles W. Reis, Henry Rees, Warren Roebuck, Perry H. Routan, Shiel Reeser, Caleb Roberts, Samuel Slater, John Slater, John L. Spier, Lemuel Seniff, Zenas H. Smith, Samuel Simes, Jacob Speeler, Francis M. Smith, B. L. Snow, Solomon Stern, Paul Troup, Jacob Traxler, Elmore Vangundy, Casper VanWalt, James H. Watson, Washington Wise, Noah Wiseman, Leander Wentz, John H. Wheeler, Isaac N. Well, Henry Weaver, Emanuel Young, Peter H. Young and William H. Zimmerman.

99TH REGIMENT, O. V. I.

The 99th Regiment was organized at Camp Lima, Ohio, and mustered into service August

26, 1862. Of this regiment, two companies were raised in Allen County, two in Shelby, two in Hancock and one each in Auglaize, Mercer, Putnam and Van Wert.

For the regiment 1,700 men were recruited, but 700 were at once transferred to the 118th Ohio.

The regiment left Lima, August 31, 1862, with 1,021 men under orders to report at Lexington, Kentucky. While en route it was learned the enemy had taken Lexington and the regiment was ordered to Cynthiana. After a few weeks it went to Covington and entered the fortifications of Fort Mitchel. In September it went by steamer to Louisville, and was so disposed as to assist in the defense of the place against the threatened assault of the confederate forces under Bragg. On the 1st of October, the regiment was transferred to Col. Stanley Mathew's brigade, which was composed of the 51st and 99th Ohio, the Eighth and 21st Kentucky and the 35th Indiana. This subsequently became the Third Brigade, Third Division, 21st Army Corps. The regiment now marched in pursuit of Bragg's retreating forces as far as Wild Cat, from which place the brigade moved to Mount Vernon and again in regular order to Somerset, Columbia, Glasgow and Gallatin. From this last point it was ordered to Lebanon to intercept the command of John Morgan. The march to Lebanon and back to Silver Springs was made in one day and Morgan's command was first dislodged but it followed the brigade on its retreat and captured about 100 of the Union forces, who were not able to keep up with the rapid march of the brigade.

About 20 of these stragglers belonged to the 99th Ohio. After a few days rest the regiment moved toward Nashville, and took position about seven miles from the city. Here the troops suffered greatly from sickness and when

the forward movement to Stone River was ordered the regiment could only muster 369 privates, two field officers and seven line and three staff officers who were fit for duty. On December 26th the regiment advanced toward Murfreesboro, being under rebel fire part of the march. At the battle of Stone River it formed on the extreme left of the line. On the morning of December 31st the division crossed Stone River, but on account of the disaster on the right was ordered back to hold the ford, while the First and Second brigades were sent to reinforce the corps of General McCook. On January 1, 1863, the Third Division crossed the river and took a position which it held until Friday afternoon, when the rebels formed in heavy column and doubling on the center drove Van Cleve's division across the river. This division was at once reinforced and drove the rebels back, capturing all the artillery used in the attack. Bragg commenced his retreat under cover of night. In this fight the 99th lost three officers and 17 men, killed, and two officers and 41 men wounded and one officer and 29 men captured.

After the battle the regiment took position at Murfreesboro on the left of the line.

On June 30, 1863, it marched to McMinnville, where it remained until the 16th of August when it moved to Pikeville.

After various marches and duties the regiment moved to Ringgold and participated in the battle of Chickamauga. Soon after the 20th and 21st corps were consolidated and the 99th Regiment was transferred to the Second Brigade, First Division, Fourth Corps.

This brigade camped for a time opposite Lookout Mountain, but on the 1st of November moved to Shell Mound. There it did duty guarding and repairing the railroad from Chattanooga to Bridgeport. On the 22nd it moved up the valley and on the 24th participated in

"the battle above the clouds," being the second line of the charging column. As the lines swept around the mountain the Second closed up on the First until, nearing the point, it rushed impetuously through the first line and held the advance until relieved by fresh troops after nightfall.

The next day the regiment was engaged at Mission Ridge, occupying the extreme right of the Federal line. After following the rebels to Ringgold, the regiment returned to Shell Mound, where it remained until February, 1864, when it moved to Cleveland, Tennessee, and on the 3rd of May entered upon the Atlanta campaign. It next participated in the actions of Rocky Face Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Pine Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro and Lovejoy's station, in all of which engagements the regiment bore an honorable and prominent part.

On the 28th of June it was assigned to the Fourth Brigade, Second Division, 23rd Corps, and on the 19th of July took possession of Decatur. The regiment participated in the actions before Atlanta, and moved to Jonesboro and Lovejoy's station. It was next assigned to the First Brigade and returned to Decatur, having lost in the Atlanta campaign 30 men killed and 56 wounded. On the first of October the regiment started in pursuit of the command of Hood, moving to Centerville by way of Resaca, Johnsville and Waverly. For a few weeks its communication was cut off, but it finally received word by courier to march to Franklin.

As this place was in the hands of the enemy the march was continued to Nashville. It next appeared in line in front of Nashville and on the morning of the 15th of December moved against the entrenched army of Hood. It drove the enemy from one position to another until it found them posted on a hill covered by a stone wall. The division without orders charged the position, carried it and turned the guns

upon the retreating foe. The enemy was pursued to Columbia, where this regiment was consolidated with the 15th Ohio, and the 99th ceased as an organization. The regimental colors were then sent to Governor John Brough of Ohio, who acknowledged their reception in a very complimentary letter. Among the officers killed, none stood higher or deserved a higher encomium than Cap. William C. Scott, killed at the battle of Lookout Mountain.

ROSTER OF COMPANY A, 99TH REGIMENT.

William C. Scott, captain, age 29; died Jan. 4, 1863 of wounds received at Stone River.
 William T. Exline, captain, age 24.
 Edward King, 1st lieutenant, age 37.
 Henry P. Holmes, 1st lieutenant, age 22.
 Daniel J. McConnel, 1st lieutenant, age 32.
 Thomas J. King, 1st lieutenant, age 24.
 William S. Williams, 2nd lieutenant, age 26.
 David Harnley, 1st sergeant, age 28.
 John S. Eyler, sergeant, age 25.
 Wilson Johnson, sergeant, age 21.
 Robinson F. Leffingwell, sergeant, age 20.
 Alexander R. McCoy, sergeant, age 26.
 David A. Elder, sergeant, age 29.
 John Wentz, sergeant, age 27; killed at Lookout Mountain, Nov. 24, 1863.
 Clinton Arnold, corporal, age 28.
 Solomon R. Moneysmith, corporal, age 33.
 William P. Bray, corporal, age 22; killed June 18, 1864, at Ackworth, Ga.
 William A. Hill, corporal, age 24; died Jan. 10, 1863, at Murfreesboro, Tenn.
 George W. Quirk, corporal, age 35.
 Henry Fuhrman, corporal, age 21.
 Edward W. Larue, corporal, age 19; captured Sept. 20, 1863, at Chickamauga.
 James W. Wells, musician, age 22.
 Israel Downing, wagoner, age 20.
 Allen, James L., private, age 21.
 Allen, William T., private, age 24; killed June 18, 1864, near Ackworth, Ga.
 Algire, Alphous, private, age 36; captured Aug. 14, 1864, near Dalton.
 Ammons, Hiram, private, age 27; died March 10, 1863, near Murfreesboro.
 Algire, Joshua, private, age 33.
 Aubert, William, private, age 25.
 Ayers, Andrew, private, age 29.
 Barrett, William R., private, age 29.
 Bevington, John, private, age 20.

abler, Harrison, private, age 19; died Aug. 19, 1864,
 at Nashville, Tenn.
 Binkley, Henry, private, age 19.
 Binkley, William H., private, age 21.
 Booth, Michael, private, age 21; died Feb. 27, 1863,
 near Murfreesboro, Tenn.
 Bryan, Enos, private, age 21.
 Burk, Edward, private, age 22.
 Bryan, Emanuel, private, age 21.
 Cable, George W., private, age 21.
 Carpenter, Charles W., private, age 18; captured Sept.
 19, 1863, at Chickamauga, Ga.
 Casteel, Benjamin, private, age 25; killed June 21, 1864,
 near Kenesaw Mountain.
 Casteel, Samuel, private, age 24.
 Clouse, Jacob, private, age 23.
 Clouse, William M., private, age 19.
 Cluff, Marcus, private, age 20.
 Connor, Alexander W., private, age 22.
 Crugh, Jacob, private, age 20.
 Crugh, William H., private, age 21.
 Davis, John, Private, age 44; died Dec. 20, 1863, at
 Bowling Green, Ky.
 Estill, Thomas J., private, age 18.
 Exline, George W., private, age 19.
 Eysenback, Louis, private, age 20.
 Fisher, Benjamin, private, age 26.
 Foster, Davis J., private, age 20; died June 27, 1863,
 at Louisville, Ky.
 Foster, William, private, age 20.
 Gamble, George W., private, age 44.
 Hamilton, Reuben, private, age 23; killed Jan. 2, 1863,
 Stone River, Tenn.
 Haraley, Abraham, private, age 36; killed Jan. 20, 1864,
 near Kenesaw Mountain.
 Hartzog, King S., private, age 24.
 Hickman, Simeon M., private, age 24.
 Hill, George W., private, age 20; died Nov. 9, 1862,
 at Bowling Green, Ky.
 Hire, Thomas W., private, age 20; wounded in action.
 Hitesman, John, private, age 18.
 Jackson, Simeon A., private, age 19.
 Jacobs, Henry, private, age 30.
 Johnson, Daniel, private, age 24.
 Johnson, Joseph E., private, age 19.
 Johnson, Sylvester W., private, age 25.
 Johnson, William H., private, age 20.
 Justus, John W., private, age 33; died Feb. 10, 1863,
 at Nashville, Tenn.
 Keiser, Benjamin F., private, age 19.
 Keiser, Peter, private, age 23.
 Kempf, Jacob, private, age 22; died Jan. 12, 1863, at
 Murfreesboro, Tenn.
 Leathers, Harrison, private, age 28.

Lichty, John F., private, age 21; died Feb. 4, 1863,
 near Murfreesboro.
 Little, George W., private, age 23; died Jan. 15, 1863,
 near Murfreesboro.
 Mann, James O., private, age 20; died April 18, 1863,
 at Camp Dennison, O.
 Medaugh, John, private, age 20.
 Miller, Cornelius H., private, age 20; died March 14,
 1863, near Murfreesboro.
 Mortimore, George W., private, age 23.
 Patten, George, private, age 24; died Jan. 3, 1863, at
 Nashville.
 Patten, John, private, age 32; died Dec. 2, 1862, at
 Bowling Green.
 Pollock, Horace P., private, age 28; killed Nov. 24,
 1868, at Lookout Mountain.
 Protsman, Henry J., private, age 18; died Dec. 29, 1862,
 at Nashville.
 Reichard, Calvin, private, age 19.
 Roberts, William A., private, age 19.
 Rothar, Johann, private, age 35.
 Russell, John, private, age 19; died Dec. 9, 1862, at
 Nashville.
 Schnepf, Adam, private, age 24.
 Schnepf, Henry, private, age 30.
 Schnepf, Solomon, private, age 19.
 Shaffer, George, private, age 32; died Jan. 20, 1863,
 near Murfreesboro.
 Shinnberry, Benjamin, private, age 19; wounded in
 action.
 Spahr, Jesse, private, age 20; killed Jan. 2, 1863, at
 Stone River.
 Thomas, Thomas, private, age 35.
 Tucker, Alfred, private, age 32.
 Vail, William G., private, age 18.
 Walter, Christopher, private, age 27; died Dec. 21, 1863,
 at Nashville.
 Warren, Hiram B., private, age 20; died April 30, 1864,
 at Bridgeport, Ala.
 Weigly, Albert, private, age 18; died Nov. 18, 1862, at
 Silver Spring, Tenn.
 Welsh, Israel, private, age 32; wounded Dec. 15, 1864,
 battle of Nashville.
 Wentz, George, private, age 22.
 Whipple, David R., private, age 28; died June 29, 1863,
 at Murfreesboro.
 Wyant, Henry, private, age 27; died May 31, 1863, near
 Murfreesboro.

COMPANY F, 90TH REGIMENT.

Gordon, Charles M., corporal; died June 19, 1865.
 Kesler, Jacob, age 18.
 King, Henry, age 19.
 King, Philip, age 21; killed at Nashville, Tenn.

THE

Mapes, George W., age 22; killed Jan 2, 1863, at Stone River.

Mapes, James F., age 21; killed Jan. 3, 1863, at Stone River.

Miller, James K., private, age 18; died at Shiloh, May, 1862.

Morrison, Henry, Sergeant.

Shaffer, George; wounded at Stone River, died in 1863.

COMPANY E, 99TH REGIMENT.

Counselor, David, private, age 19.

52ND REGIMENT, O. V. I.

This regiment was organized in August, 1862, by Col. Daniel McCook, and on the 25th of August left Camp Dennison for Lexington, Kentucky. While *en route* the ladies of Cincinnati presented a banner to the regiment. On September 6th the regiment went into camp at Louisville, Kentucky. And there the 52nd Ohio and the 85th, 86th and 105th Illinois were brigaded and on the 1st of October, 1862, the brigade moved out in pursuit of Bragg's retreating forces.

The enemy was encountered at Chaplin Hill and a fight ensued in which Bragg informed his troops that Barnett's battery must be taken, saying, "It is supported by green troops and can be easily taken." The effort was made but the regiment and battery stood like veterans and sent the attacking column back in confusion. On reaching Nashville on December 10th the regiment was placed on garrison duty in which capacity it remained until March 7, 1863. In the battle of Chickamauga the brigade belonged to the reserve corps and was moved to Rossville Gap, finally taking position on the Ringgold road. On the 20th the regiment was assigned a position toward the front near McAfee's army. At noon the brigade was ordered into position about two miles to the right of the church. While moving to this position, the brigade was subjected to a

terrific fire at short range but moved on in gallant order.

On the 21st the brigade was posted on the right of Rossville Gap, and was under fire from 2 o'clock until dark, when the Federal forces withdrew to Chattanooga. On the 28th two regiments were ordered to report to General Hooker in Lookout Valley and the 52nd Ohio and the 86th Illinois were detailed and were temporarily constituted the Third Brigade, Second Division, 11th Army Corps. This was then stationed in two of the gaps near the base of Lookout Mountain, where it became an almost constant target for the rebel gunners. On the 6th of November the regiment returned to camp at Chickamauga Creek. At daylight on the morning of the 24th of November, the regiment reported at Caldwell's Ford, where under cover of darkness General Sherman had just thrown a bridge across the river.

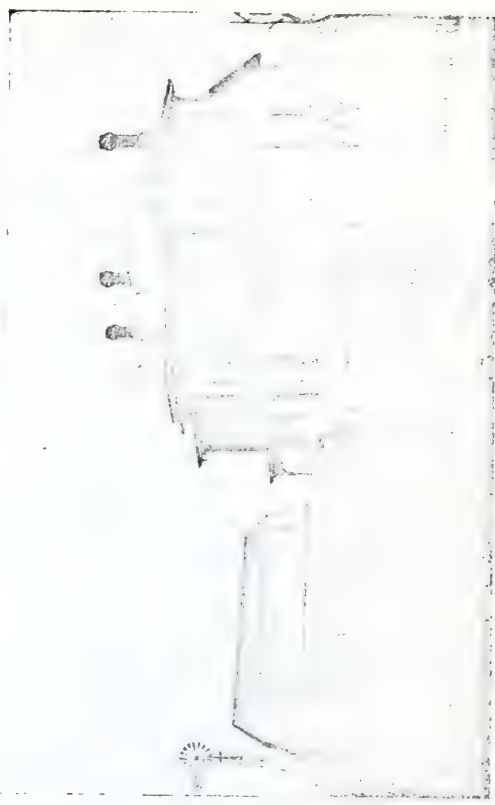
The great battle followed and the rebels were driven from their position. The regiment afterward joined the march to Knoxville and on the 15th of December commenced the return to Chattanooga, on the night of the 19th going into camp on Chickamauga Creek. On the 26th it moved to McAfee's Church and went into camp near its position at the opening of the battle of Chickamauga. On the 14th of February it moved to Chickamauga station and on the 23rd returned to Ringgold, where on the next day it witnessed the taking of Tunnel Hill. In the Atlanta campaign the regiment took honorable part in the actions at Dalton and Resaca. At Kenesaw Mountain the brigade attempted the impossible task of carrying the works in front, in which effort it suffered severely and lost its leader, the colonel of the 52nd. It then participated in the Atlanta movement and accompanied Sherman to Savannah and in the march through Georgia and Carolinas. This campaign over, it participated



RESIDENCE AND BARN OF JOHN J. HOFMANN, PLEASANT TOWNSHIP



FOUNTAIN FARM," HOAGLIN TOWNSHIP
Residence of Franklin Carlo



"FAIRVIEW FARM," WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
Residence of Frederick Joseph Hoebler

in the Grand Review in Washington and was mustered out June 3, 1865.

ROSTER OF COMPANY A, 52ND REGIMENT, O. V. I.

- Israel D. Clark, captain, age 42.
 William H. Buck, 1st lieut.
 William H. Kaufman, 2nd lieut., age 24.
 Lucius G. Dunkam, 1st sergt., age 45.
 Jacques H. Scott, sergt., age 22.
 Isaac N. Groscoft, sergt., age 25.
 Enos J. Cordel, sergt., age 18; captured in action near Columbus, S. C.
 John Eckfeld, sergt., age 38.
 Robert E. Baxter, sergt., age 28; captured July 19, 1864, at Peach Tree Creek.
 Jacob H. Beck, corp., age 20.
 James Carnehan, corp., age 23.
 W. H. Clutter, corp., age 19; discharged on account of wounds received in action.
 Daniel Riley, corp., age 18.
 Joan Baker, corp., age 32.
 James J. Jackson, corp., age 31.
 Daniel Schumm, corp., age 22; died Feb. 8, 1863 at Bowling Green, Ky.
 Joshua W. Harper, corp., age 28; died Dec. 20, 1862 at Nashville.
 Robert M. Sproal, corp., age 21.
 James Oñara, musician.
 Charles Comman, musician.
 Samuel Cafdenger, wagoner.
 Anshutz, William H., private, age 24.
 Berthhoff, Henry, private.
 Bush, John, private, age 28; died April 6, 1863 at Nashville.
 Binkley, John, private, age 40.
 Bowers, Andrew, private, age 21; killed Aug. 8, 1864 near Atlanta.
 Bureaw, Henry, private.
 Billings, Calvin, private, age 27.
 Barr, Richard, private, age 24.
 Beck, George W., private, age 19; died Nov. 26, 1862, at Nashville.
 Bowers, Anthony M., private, age 18; died May 6, 1863 at Nashville.
 Baxter, James W., private, age 31.
 Beasner, George W., private, age 18.
 Baster, John S., private, age 18.
 Britsan, Daniel, private, age 18.
 Burt, Samuel A., private, missing from forage train, April 15, 1865, near Cape Fear River, N. C.; killed or captured.
 Baxter, John D., private.
 Brey, William, private.
 Beck, Jacob H., private, age 20.
 Black, Joseph, private, age 25; captured Sept. 1, 1862.
 Bieran, Harry, private, age 34.
 Cable, John I., private, age 27.
 Calvert, William, private, age 19.
 Cashin, James, private, age 18.
 Cummins, Charles, private, age 18; killed May 15, 1865, at Resaca, Ga.
 Cusic, John, private, age 24.
 Dryer, Henry, private, age 27.
 Denman, Mathias, private, age 19; died March 16, 1863, at Nashville.
 Emerson, Nimrod, private, age 21.
 Elder, Jacob, private, age 23; killed Aug. 7, 1864, at Atlanta, Ga.
 Foulk, Jeremiah, private, age 22.
 Foust, Lester B., private, age 22; died April 20, 1863, at Nashville.
 Fitzsimons, James, private, age 40.
 Frankinberg, John H., private, age 31.
 Goliver, Tovanion, private, age 19.
 Goliver, Benjamin M., private, age 20.
 Graham, John, private, age 40.
 Highland, James A., private, age 21.
 Hill, Calvin H., private, age 26.
 Hill, Patrick, private, age 21.
 Howard, John H., private, age 25.
 Hunsacker, Solomon, private, age 22; died Nov. 20, 1862, at Bowling Green, Ky.
 Hughes, Charles W., private, age 44.
 Jackson, James G., private, age 32; died Feb. 7, 1863, Nashville, Tenn.
 John, Isaac N., private, age 21; died April 19, 1863, at Nashville, Tenn.
 Kannel, Joseph, private, age 22.
 Kerns, Christian, private, age 32.
 Kissinger, Alexander, private, age 18.
 Knis, Alfred, private, age 31.
 Leslie, Francis W., private, age 18.
 Lillie, Thomas, private, age 26.
 Murphy, John W., private, age 24.
 Melchi, Benjamin, private, age 18.
 Myers, Johnathan H., private, age 22.
 Mofley, Lycurgus, private, age 42.
 McGill, Thomas, private, age 18.
 Murphy, Samuel, private, age 21.
 Miller, Osbern E., private, age 18.
 Meely, Levi A., private, age 23.
 Marshall, Samuel B., private, age 28.
 Marsh, Samuel J., private, age 18.
 Merrit, Thomas, private, age 44.
 McGonagle, McCaslin, private, age 18; captured July 19, 1864, at Peach Tree Creek.
 O'Neal, William, private, age 22.

O'Hara, James, private, age 18.
 O'Brian, John, private, age 30.
 Payne, William H., private, age 18.
 Robert, Jesse, private, age 25; killed July 19, 1864, at Peach Tree Creek.
 Rutan, Joseph W., private, age 18; died Sept. 29, 1864, at Chattanooga, Tenn., of wounds received Aug. 7, 1864, near Atlanta, Ga.
 Royce, Edwin W., private, age 30.
 Rowland, Levi M., private, age 26; captured July 19, 1864, at Peach Tree Creek.
 Rhoden, John L., private, age 19.
 Styner, John H., private, age 18.
 Starkey, Isaac J., private, age 21; missing Sept. 19, 1863, in battle at Chickamauga; no further record.
 Seeman, John, private, age 23.
 Truby, Christian, private, age 45.
 Tutor, William R., private, age 35.
 Vangundy, John, private, age 21.
 Wortman, George W., private, age 22.
 Watters, Joshua, private, age 20.
 Winget, Archibald, private, age 19.
 White, John, private, age 40.
 Ze'ner, Martin, private, age 18.
 Zelliner, Joshua, private, age 19.

64TH REGIMENT, O. V. I.

The 64th Regiment was organized at Camp Buckingham, near Mansfield, Ohio, in 1861.

ROSTER OF COMPANY F, 64TH REGIMENT, O. V. I.

John H. Finfrock, captain, age 25.
 Norman K. Brown, captain, age 27; 2nd lieut., Nov. 30, 1861; 1st lieut., Nov. 3, 1862; capt., March 11, 1863; major, March 18, 1865.
 William H. Farber, captain, age 19.
 Sineon B. Conn, 1st lieut., age 29.
 John K. Shellenbarger, 1st lieut., age 18.
 John Blecker, 2nd lieut., age 33; 2nd lieut, Nov. 3, 1863; wounded Dec. 31, 1862.
 Thomas J. Clark, 1st sergt., age 21; died Dec. 6, 1862.
 Harrison C. Brown, 1st sergt., age 21.
 Asa D. Farnam, 1st sergt., age 28; wounded Dec. 31, 1862 and Nov. 30, 1864.
 Lewis High, 1st sergt., age 36; 2nd lieut. Co. K, April 1, 1863.
 David E. Barret, 1st sergt., age 25; wounded Sept. 20, 1863.
 George H. Leiter, sergt., age 21; wounded June 18, 1863.
 John Hayes, sergt., age 20.
 Edward Geier, sergt., age 19.
 Marcellus Farnam, sergt., age 18; wounded May 9, 1864 and Nov. 30, 1864; died Aug. 17, 1865.
 Leonard Conn, sergt., age 24

Joseph T. Beard, sergt., age 18.
 Samuel Paugie, sergt., age 19; killed Nov. 29, 1864.
 Uriah S. Wise, sergt., age 21.
 David W. Singleton, sergt., age 19.
 Edward H. Hearn, sergt., age 27; died April 20, 1862.
 Daniel W. Cluff, corp., age 18; wounded Nov. 30, 1864.
 Christian Weaver, corp., age 18; wounded May 26, 1864.
 Joseph M. Strait, corp., age 21.
 John H. Leiter, corp., age 22; died Aug. 11, 1865.
 John Linkhart, corp., age 27; wounded Dec. 31, 1862 and Nov. 25, 1863.
 James L. Heath, corp., age 29; killed May 9, 1864.
 Lewis J. Barrett, corp., age 26.
 Henry David Major, corp., age 20.
 James W. Tolan, corp., age 19.
 Asa Hoyt, corp., age 19; died May 14, 1864, of wounds received May 9, 1864.
 Philip H. Anshutz, musician, age 18.
 Emery R. Underwood, musician, age 26; died April 14, 1863.
 Benjamin F. Griffith, Wagoner, age 45.
 Alsbaugh, Robert, private, age 28.
 Aler, Noah, private, age 19.
 Alexander, George W., private, age 24; wounded Nov. 30, 1864.
 Adams, George H., private, age 26; wounded May 9, 1864.
 Ackerman, Henry, private, age 18; wounded Nov. 30, 1864.
 Aubert, Henry, private, age 34.
 Brown, Christian, private, age 18.
 Bolenbaugh, George, private, age 18; died Aug. 30, 1864, of wounds received July 26.
 Bartlett, William, private, age 19.
 Bair, Jehiel, private, age 22.
 Brochas, John, private, age 23; wounded and missing Dec. 31, 1862.
 Byerly, Samuel, private, age 20.
 Beard, Thomas, private, age 40; died Sept. 3, 1865.
 Beiler, James M., private, age 18.
 Pank, William R., private, age 19.
 Cupp, Washington, private, age 28.
 Cummins, Jerry, private, age 41.
 Case, Worlin, private, age 20.
 Chilcote, George S., private, age 18; wounded May 14, 1864.
 Courtright, William N., private, age 20.
 Christ, John, private, age 18.
 Cable, Jacob W., private, age 21.
 Collins, Charles, private, age 33.
 Crawshaw, James, private, age 18; died April 30, 1862.
 Croninger, Calvin, private, age 18.
 Clinger, Daniel, private, age 36.
 Conn, William M., private, age 21.

Conn, John C., private, age 32; killed Dec. 31, 1862.
 Cullor, William J., private, age 23.
 Clymer, Joseph C., private, age 21.
 Dwire, Shaphat, private, age 33.
 Devore, Henry, private, age 44; died Feb. 20, 1862.
 Easely, Benjamin, private, age 19.
 Easely, Samuel, private, age 21.
 Feister, John, private, age 18.
 Fisher, Alexander, private, age 18.
 Ferree, John S., private, age 19; died Feb. 7, 1862.
 Ferree, John, private, age 21.
 Fisher, Joseph, private, age 31; missing in battle Nov. 30, 1864.
 Ferguson, James, private, age 21.
 Geier, Ferdinand, private, age 19.
 Geier, Albert, private, age 21; wounded Dec. 31, 1862 and Sept. 18, 1863; killed June 27, 1864.
 Gisk, William, private, age 33; died July 4, 1862.
 Griffith, George W., private, age 20.
 Galliher, Joseph D., private, age 18.
 Herring, Emanuel, private, age 19; died Feb. 15, 1865.
 Herring, Simon, private, age 26; killed Dec. 31, 1862.
 Herring, Irwin, private, age 21; died March 3, 1862.
 Harp, Joseph, private, age 31.
 Hinkle, David, private, age 22.
 Hartscheek, John, private, age 24.
 Hostatter, George, private, age 25.
 Halley, Jacob, private, age 21.
 High, William, private, age 21.
 Hines, Jacob, private, age 22.
 Hayes, Samuel H., private, age 18; wounded Nov. 29, 1864.
 Kreischer, Philip, private, age 24.
 Loren, Samuel M., private, age 42.
 Lantz, William H., private, age 21.
 Lewis, Isaac, private, age 43.
 McCarthy, William, private, age 18.
 McQueen, Adam J., private, age 43.
 McClure, William T., private, age 23; died April 28, 1865.
 McClure, William T., private, age 20; wounded Sept. 20, 1863.
 Myers, James C., private, age 27.
 McClure, John W., private, age 21.
 Moore, Albert, private, age 18.
 Milliken, Jeremiah, private, age 18; died March 26, 1862.
 North, Christopher, private, age 29; wounded Nov. 30, 1864.
 Pace, Charles, private, age 21.
 Piper, Isaac, private, age 19; captured Aug. 14, 1864; died Feb. 12, 1865, in rebel prison at Andersonville.
 Peterson, Andrew, private, age 19; wounded May 9, 1864.
 Pint, Amos, private, age 18.

Ramsey, Reuben, private, age 19; killed Dec. 31, 1862.
 Ramsey, Elijah, private, age 20; died June 4, 1864, of wounds received May 9, 1864.
 Ramsey, William J., private, age 22.
 Robinson, John G., private, age 20.
 Richards, William H., private, age 43.
 Richards, Charles, private, age 43; died Nov. 13, 1862.
 Rison, David C., private, age 24; wounded Nov. 29, 1864.
 Slade, Frederick, private, age 19.
 Sipsey, Charles F., private, age 24.
 Spahr, Casper H., private, age 21; died April 29, 1862.
 Swope, David, private, age 26.
 Sprowl, Joseph, private, age 25.
 Stitts, John, private, age 38.
 Switzer, Frederick, private, age 44; died June 11, 1862.
 Shaffer, David, private, age 33; missing in battle Nov. 30, 1864.
 Stem, Thomas C., private, age 18.
 Stickel, John, private, age 38.
 Shrider, William, private, age 22; died March 1st, 1862.
 Thorn, William, private, age 42.
 Trimble, Jackson M., private, age 22.
 Updegrove, Robert L., private, age 18.
 Vaughn, Samuel, private, age 23.
 Wisener, Andrew, private, age 40; died Dec. 19, 1862.
 Wilson, Eli C., private, age 18.
 Waltz, Lewis, private, age 20; died May 14, 1862.
 Wiler, Jacob, private, age 20; wounded May 9, 1864.
 Wyrick, John W., private, age 29.
 Warnick, John, private, age 43.
 Wechter, George, private, age 34.

88TH REGIMENT, O. V. I.

The 88th Regiment was stationed at Columbus to guard prisoners and do police duty, and was not taken out of the State. It participated in the pursuit of Morgan and in suppressing the Holmes County rebellion in 1863.

ROSTER OF COMPANY K, 88TH REGIMENT, O. V. I.

Waldo T. Davis, captain, age 23.
 Edward L. Quick, 1st lieut., age 26.
 John H. Patterson, 1st lieut., age 23.
 Reuben P. Moon, 2nd lieut., age 32.
 Henry Butler, 1st sergt., age 24.
 Philip Hawkins, sergt., age 28.
 Elijah H. Patterson, sergt., age 21.
 John H. Grove, sergt., age 30.
 Nelson Fugate, sergt., age 20.
 Jacob Worts, corp., age 27.
 Hugh Hamilton, corp., age 31.
 Fernando Grechus, corp., age 22.

- Lemuel W. Bethards, corp., age 20.
 William H. Nicodemus, corp., age 30.
 James Malick, corp., age 28.
 Benjamin C. Swineford, corp., age 20.
 James Fife, corp., age 28.
 Badger, Thomas C., private, age 23.
 Bailey, Isaac W., private, age 32.
 Baldwin, Mortimer, private, age 33.
 Barber, Warren, private, age 27.
 Baxter, John C., private, age 29.
 Benedict, Sylvester, private, age 29.
 Bethards, James W., private, age 26.
 Bethards, John G., private, age 31.
 Balyeat, Reuben N., private, age 22.
 Boohn, Reuben, private, age 20.
 Calhoun, Abraham, private, age 23.
 Carson, John S., private, age 20.
 Clark, William, private, age 39.
 Clay, John N., private, age 20.
 Craven, John A., private, age 18.
 Dart, Alonzo, private, age 33.
 Daugherty, Jacob, private, age 18.
 Davis, Jesse, private, age 38.
 Dean, Royal, private, age 30.
 Doran, Lewis, private, age 18.
 Dutton, John M. V., private, age 29.
 Eagy, Johnathan, private, age 19.
 Eagy, Oliver, private, age 22.
 Faulkner, William M., private, age 25.
 Fife, Albert, private, age 27.
 Finkbinder, Levi, private, age 31.
 Fireword, John, private, age 19.
 Fisher, Samuel J., private, age 18.
 Foley, William G., private, age 18.
 Forsythe, John, private, age 38.
 Fryer, Andrew S., private, age 18.
 Giffen, Reuben T., private, age 19.
 Glenn, John S., private, age 19.
 Goetehus, Henry E., private, age 18.
 Grebanure, John C., private, age 21.
 Grasviner, John S., private, age 31.
 Gunsett, Henry, private, age 21.
 Guy, Levi, private, age 20.
 Gwyn, Ira, private, age 18.
 Gwyn, John, private, age 21.
 Hawkins, Samuel, private, age 20.
 Hawkins, Timothy, private, age 20.
 Harriman, David H., private, age 20.
 Harvey, Samuel W., private, age 44.
 Hattery, John W., private, age 19.
 Hattery, James, private, age 25.
 Hoff, John W., private, age 30.
 Hubbel, Hiram, private, age 20.
 Jewell, John W., private, age 22.
 Knight, Robert F., private, age 18.
 Larue, John C., private, age 25.
 Lemunion, Daniel R., private, age 32.
 McCausland, Hugh, private, age 21.
 McClure, James A., private, age 25.
 McCoy, Joseph G., private, age 20.
 McVey, Benson, private, age 18.
 Mahen, Granville M., private, age 18.
 Miller, George L., private, age 20.
 Miller, Elijah, private, age 21.
 Miller, Samuel, private, age 22.
 Mullen, William R., private, age 20.
 Mulloy, Bayan, private, age 20.
 Myers, James, private, age 31.
 Myers, James F., private, age 18.
 Myers, Robert G., private, age 18.
 Myers, Thomas, private, age 20.
 Ottendorf, Lewis, private, age 18.
 Osborn, Daniel J., private, age 39.
 Parrott, Joseph J., private, age 31.
 Parrott, Wesley W., private, age 27.
 Patterson, James P., private, age 27.
 Rhodes, Adam, private, age 37.
 Rhodes, David D., private, age 19.
 Rhodes, Jeremiah, private, age 18.
 Rhodes, John E., private, age 26.
 Rice, Silas, private, age 23.
 Rider, John, private, age 18.
 Rider, William, private, age 30.
 Sayers, Ezra, private, age 30.
 Slade, Kingsly P., private, age 27.
 Suavely, Andrew, private, age 24.
 Suavely, John, private, age 27.
 Stantz, Henry T., private.
 Steel, John W., private, age 20.
 Sweet, Abel K., private, age 20.
 Thornbury, George W., private, age 26.
 Timbers, Simon, private, age 18.
 Toland, Isaac W., private, age 18.
 Townsend, Benjamin, private, age 21.
 Waltz, Emanuel, private, age 25.
 Waltz, Josiah, private, age 23.
 Wheeler, John L., private, age 35.
 Wilson, Samuel, private, age 27.
 Wisener, Lorenzo D., private, age 18.
 Wyant, Jacob, private, age 21.
 Yant, Franklin, private, age 32.
 Yoh, John, private, age 21.
 Zimmerman, John C., private, age 20.

20th REGIMENT, O. V. I.

COMPANY 'B'

Johnson Maus.

COMPANY G.

John G. Spahr, Nicholas Gersler,
Isaac Balyeat, Littleton L. Roberts,
John Murphy, Ebson Stewart,
Joseph Wart, Frederick Reed.

30th REGIMENT, O. V. I.

COMPANY C.

Joseph B. Fronefield, Martin I. Beauchamp.

COMPANY E.

Josiah Bowers, Robert J. Wyborn.

FIFTH OHIO BATTERY.

J. Stephens, Samuel Grendon,
V. Stephens, Ephraim B. Grendon.
P. C. Grendon,

McLAUGHLIN'S SQUADRON OF CAVALRY.

James J. Merrick, Company A.
Adam Merrick, Company A.
Eli Taylor, Company A.
John Stauter, Company A.
Nathaniel Allen, Company B.
Robert Fife, Company B.

32nd REGIMENT, O. V. I.

William G. Walters, Company B.
John F. Friedly, Company F.
Joseph Roehrer, Company F; killed at Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Henry G. Lehmann, Company H.

47th REGIMENT, O. V. I.

Wilson S. Gauze, Company C.
L. D. Avery, Company C.
Lafayette Riker, Company C.
Eli Riker, Company C.
Amos W. Chilcote, Company D.
Albert Foust, Company G.
John Medougle, Company G.
G. W. Baston, Company B.

81st REGIMENT, O. V. I.

Edward Cremean, Company B.
John Jordon, Company B.
Peter Snyder, Company K.
Jacob C. Hurless, Company H.
G. H. Rider, Company A.
Samuel S. Rider, Company A.

192nd REGIMENT, O. V. I.

Thomas F. Priddy, Company B.
Shafner M. Gilliland, Company B.

Francis T. Gilliland, Company B.
Enoch M. Hoaglin, Company B.
Mathias M. Rittenhouse, Company B.
John C. Ramsey, Company B.
John Everett, Company B.
Daniel Snyder, Company C.
William H. Noell, Company D.

196th REGIMENT, O. V. I.

Peter Bolenbaugh, Company F.
Franklin Baker, Company F.
George Mericle, Company F.

MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

Felix B. Shaw, Company I, 3rd O. V. I.
Theodore P. Aldrich, Company E, 78th O. V. I.
Charles Landon, Company C, 3rd O. V. I.
William Sands, Company G, 2nd Ohio Heavy Art.
James Long, Company H, 59th N. Y. V. I.
James Heffelfinger, Company I, 3rd O. V. I.
James Heffelfinger, Company B, 43rd O. V. I.
William T. Sterling, Company K, 96th O. V. I.
Frederick Geissler, Company C, 41st O. V. I.
David Sterling, Company F, 31st O. V. I.
John Albright, Company D, 82nd O. V. I.
John W. Brubaker, Company B, 102nd O. V. I.
William Meely, Company G, 43rd O. V. I.
George E. Brubaker, Company B, 102nd O. V. I.,
died Aug. 1864.
James Brewer.
Michael Clouse, Company A, 41st O. V. I.
Harrison L. Allen, Company E, 7th O. V. I.
John A. Switzer, Company D, 9th O. V. I.
Wesley Kesler, 4th O. V. I.
Samuel Johnson, Company D, 34th O. V. I.
Ruben Hook, Company A, 41st O. V. I.
Peter Swoveland, corp., Company H, O. V. I.
Francis Lewis, Company D, 27th U. S. C. T.
John Wyant, Company F, 41st O. V. I.
Josiah Bowers, Company E, 188th O. V. I.
William H. Gibson, Company G, 34th O. V. I.
John B. Melchi, Company L, O. H. Art.
Richard Pearson, Company G, 110th O. V. I.
Solomon R. Moneysmith, corp., Company A, 5th
O. V. I.
James R. Crooks, sergt., Company B, 178th O. V. I.
Henry Zelner, corp., Company F, 118th O. V. I.
Abraham Hawkins, Company D, 69th O. V. I.
William W. Beall, Company E, 80th O. V. I.
William W. Beall, Company E, 129th O. V. I.
Henry A. Tindall, Company G, 54th O. V. I.
Frederick Lillich, 1st lieut., Company B, 2nd O. M.
James H. Simms, Company C, 34th O. V. I.
Henry S. Hudspeth, Company H, 169th O. V. I.

Fred Reid, Company G, 2nd O. H. Art.
 William Freck, Company F, 38th O. V. I.
 John Hilton, Company C, 74th Ind. V. I.
 Jesse Longworth.
 Benjamin F. Filler, Company F, 66th O. V. I.
 John Whitcraft, Company B, 31st O. V. I.
 Edward Jolly, Company D, 180th O. V. I.
 Levi Barber, Company E, 118th O. V. I.
 Henry Weller, Company F, 65th O. V. I.
 Justice Rutan, Company I, 9th O. V. Cav.
 Alex. F. McVicar, Company K, 118th O. V. I.

139th REGIMENT, O. N. G.

COMPANY D.

John E. Ramsey, Joseph Larue, sergt.,
 Daniel McManima,

COMPANY H.

Jacob B. Lichty, John Everett,
 William H. Witten, John J. Switzler,
 Adam Smith, William E. Wagely,
 John High, William G. Walters,
 David Wallick, Wesley J. Walters,
 Moses H. McCoy, corporal, J. McConnell.

COMPANY I.

William Sheets, John Wilkins,
 George Sheets, Lewis F. Switzer.
 S. L. Ramsey,

MISCELLANEOUS REGIMENTS, O. N. G.

Amos Tony, Company A, 151st O. N. G.
 Franklin Carlo, Company I, 134th O. N. G.
 Isaac N. Glover, Company H, 132nd O. N. G.
 Samuel R. Glover, Company H, 132nd O. N. G.
 Andrew Agler, Company H, 129th O. N. G.
 Wilson Adelblue, Company C, 169th O. N. G.
 Isaac W. McIlwain, Company F, 154th O. N. G.
 James H. Bell, Company D, 160th O. N. G.
 William W. Hillerman, Company F, 135th O. N. G.

THE SQUIRREL HUNTERS.

Early in September, 1862, Kirby Smith with 15,000 veteran Confederate soldiers entered Kentucky and took possession of Lexington, Frankfort and Maysville and then turned his forces toward Cincinnati. His forces were swelled by Humphrey Marshall's command and also by Morgan's guerilla cavalry. Bragg was at the same time marching upon

Louisville with his army. At this juncture things looked decidedly threatening.

Gen. Lew Wallace was placed in command at Cincinnati. As soon as he arrived in the city, Thursday the 4th of September, he put Cincinnati, Covington and Newport under martial law, issued a proclamation suspending all business, stopping all ferry boats, and summoning all citizens to enroll themselves for defense and sent every citizen without distinction to the trenches. The enemy within a few days approached within five miles of the city on the Kentucky side and skirmished with the Federal outposts. The Governor called for volunteers and there being no arms each volunteer was required to bring his arms and ammunition. Thus the rifles of the early settlers with their powder horns and shot pouches well supplied with powder and bullets were brought in to requisition. In answer to this call of the Governor, a company was formed and bullets molded. The company hastened to Cincinnati and was there placed upon a steamboat with steam up, ready to be conveyed to any point needed.

That the troops thus recruited and armed called forth many amusing remarks is not to be wondered at. Various headgear from the coonskin cap to the home-made straw hat was in evidence; as to clothes, from the home-made jeans roundabout to the cast-off dress suit; and as to footwear, from the home-made moccasin and the gum boot to the congress shoe.

And the bedding was equally picturesque—heavy comforter, quilts and white and colored blankets. No wonder it called to mind that ancient ditty:

Hark! Hark! hear the dogs bark
 The beggars are coming to town,
 Some in rags, some in tags,
 And some in velvet gowns.

The old saying that prevention is better

than cure proved true in this case. Thorough preparation, with the troops placed in position behind hastily constructed breastworks and trenches, all of which was doubtless communicated to the enemy by traitors in our midst, caused the commander of the rebel forces, General Heath, with his 12,000 veterans fresh from their victories at Richmond, when he drew up before this array of determined citizen soldiers, to deem it prudent to take the matter into serious consideration before making the attack. After viewing the situation from all points, the sagacious leader of the rebel forces decided that it was best to withdraw while he could and under cover of darkness and a violent thunderstorm made a hasty retreat.

There were a few amusing instances in the situation. While the masses needed but to be called, yet there were a few timid ones and these were hunted out by armed squads with fixed bayonets—some from back kitchens, closets, cellars, garrets, and even under beds where they were hiding, and one was found in his wife's clothes at the wash tub. He was marched across the river and placed in a working squad amid the shouts and laughter of the multitude.

Of the company from Van Wert, only two made any display of cowardice, and they had been the loudest in their talk of what they would do, but when ordered on the boat refused, saying they had come to defend Cincinnati and not to go over to Kentucky to fight. But when placed in the ranks with comrades that they knew had been selected for the occasion, they confined their opposition to grumbling, and when on the boat with the gang-plank up they subsided. The following is the roster of Van Wert's contribution to the "Squirrel Hunters" of Ohio, in 1862, that saved the city without the shedding of blood.

ROSTER OF SQUIRREL HUNTERS OF VAN WERT COUNTY.

Thaddeus S. Gilliland, capt.; Alonzo W. Baker, 1st lieut.; Frank Bickford, 2nd lieut.; Andrew McGavern, 1st sergt.; George S. Edson, 2nd sergt.; Charles P. Richey, 3rd sergt.; John A. Smith, 4th sergt.; Benjamin A. Welch, 5th sergt.; John Strode, 6th sergt.; David S. Hoit, 1st corp.; Chas. W. Goss, 2nd corp.; Stephen Capper, 3rd corp.; George W. Mosure, 4th corp.; Austin Gish, 5th corp.; C. C. North, 6th corp.; Benjamin F. Swineford, 7th corp.; James Mount, 8th corp.

PRIVATES.

Allen, John W.	Heitsman, David
Anchutz, Louis,	Hodges, Henry C.
Arnold, Elijah,	Jewell, Lesley
Beatty, Peter,	Johnson, Homer
Baker, John C.	Jewell, Wesley
Burk, John	Jones, Luserne
Budd, John L.	Kuhl, Philip
Brodnix, John	Kuhl, Daniel
Brodnix, J. Boyd	Larue, Calvin
Bebb, William G.	Larue, Judson
Barkdull, Enos E.	Losing, Nelson W.
Baird, Charles P.	McClure, William D.
Brown, William O.	Mather, Edward
Buck, William	Mills, Elijah
Copeland, George	Mullen, Emery
Cochran, William	Mead, Stephen
Corder, Reason	Myers, Thomas
Chambers, John W.	Parent, John
Davis, Dana	Ralston, David
Eagy, Johnathan, Sr.	Rogers, Augustus
Eagy, George	Ramsey, John C.
Eagy, Jonathan, Jr.	Stem, William
Eagy, Oliver	Sands, David
Emerson, Sylvester	Swartz, William
Emerson, Franklin	Sweet, Abel K.
Evans, David W.	Sands, Christian
Frickbinder, Levi	Shaffer, Laurens B.
Faulkner, Zeri	Smith, A. O.
Flagg, Henry	Thacker, John
Foster, James J.	Terry, Joseph
Faulkner, William	Todd, Elijah
Green, Darius	Todd, S. I.
Gordon, John	Troup, John
Hall, George M.	Underwood, J. P.
High, William	Welker, James
Hoghe, H. R.	Wells, George
Hunter, John	Weaver, Samuel L.
Hunter, I. I.	Willer, Perry

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

COMPANY D, SECOND INFANTRY, U. S. VOLUNTEERS.

Company D, Second Infantry, O. N. G., was organized April 12, 1898, and on the 26th of the same month started to Columbus, Ohio, with the rest of the regiment in answer to the call of President McKinley for volunteers for the Spanish War. On May 10th the regiment was formally mustered into the service of the United States as the Second Regiment, Ohio Infantry, U. S. Volunteers. The following is the roster of Company D of Van Wert, as mustered into the service: Captain, Edward S. Mathias; 1st lieutenant, Robert Webster; 2nd lieutenant, Elias W. Martz; 1st sergeant, Arthur C. Gilpin; quartermaster sergeant, George W. Kline; sergeants—Ernest W. Kear, William F. Himmelreich, Harry L. Scott and Guy P. Davison; corporals—Charles M. Siders, Otis C. Ross, Frank E. Estill, Orvill E. Blake, Joe P. Dunlap and Burton L. Smith; musician, Roy J. Moore; artificer, Johnson Wilson; wagoner, James C. Craig; cook, Thomas E. Mullen; privates, Leon E. Andrews, Ira L. Acheson, William E. Ball, Dan M. Collett, George C. Carnahan, Billie M. Cole, Edward F. Crone, Arthur S. Crone, Thomas A. Campbell, Fred H. Campbell, Curtis L. Conn, Evan R. Daniels, Oria Dominy, Ira J. Dix, Curtis E. Fair, Fred Gorman, William A. Griffith, George Hayler, Jr., Harry G. Hagerman, George M. Hinderleiter, Harry M. Hyatt, Charles N. Imbody, William T. Johns, Samuel Johnson, Fred B. Kimmel, William C. Krout, Carey C. Lichty, Wells W. LeHew, Harry C. Long, Albert T. Mathews, Leonard J. Marker, Adam C. Martin, Joe Miller, Clyde O. Miller, Charles W. Mullen, Elmore K. Murlin, Verne B. McConahay, Carey C. McLaughlin, Ernest

McPike, J. Sibley Neel, James Norris, B. Frank Norris, Ben T. Norris, Doit Potts, William E. Reese, Alonzo S. Ricketts, William Sheeter, Charles W. Swartz, Henry Samsel, George H. Trisler, John H. Welker, Corwin S. West and Ernest C. Zeigler—a total of three officers and 69 enlisted men.

Upon the second call for volunteers issued in June 1898, the following named were enlisted: Richard Angevine, Charles Campbell, Daniel V. Carter, Charles Dasher, Manton Dippery, William L. Davis, Charles O. Decker, Jacob Fisher, Harry C. Fritcher, David Guinn, Charles Guinn, George Glosette, Harry S. Harmon, John F. Hoelzer, Howard G. Jones, Pearl Knott, Byron Klein, Garrett Louer, Arthur Miller, Carl C. Michael, Hilas A. Morgan, Glen H. McIlvaine, Otto R. Pennell, Robert L. Pennell, Charles H. Price, William Parent, Earl Raudabaugh, Amos P. Strohl, Foster Siders, Elmer Schultz, John Stanley, John F. Streit, William R. Saltzgaber, Curteus W. Wilson, George Wiseman, Frederick G. Martin and Henry Kundert.

On July 1, 1898, Privates William R. Saltzgaber, Albert T. Mathews, Ira J. Dix, Billie M. Cole, Verne B. McConahay and J. Sibley Neel were appointed corporals.

On July 19, 1898, Private Howard G. Jones was transferred to the Reserve Ambulance Corps of the First Army Corps and later served on the Porto Rican expedition.

On August 10, 1898, Privates Ira L. Acheson and Harry C. Long were transferred to the Hospital Corps of the Second Division of the First Army Corps.

On August 31, 1898, Private Doit Potts died at the Sternberg Hospital, Chickamauga Park, Georgia, of typhoid fever and on October 2, Private Jacob Fisher died at the Second Division, First Army Corps, Hospital, at Knoxville, Tennessee, of typhoid fever.

On October 13, 1898, Private Samuel Johnson was appointed musician.

On November 1, 1898, Lewis F. Moebus joined the company and on the same day was transferred to the regimental band as was also Private Charles O. Decker. Private Charles O. Decker was transferred back to the company December 16, 1898.

On December 31, 1898, Corporal William R. Saltzgaber was honorably discharged.

On January 1, 1899, Private Corwin S. West was appointed corporal.

On January 25, 1899, Corporal Ira J. Dix was transferred to the regimental hospital, having been appointed hospital steward, and on the same day Private Otto R. Pennell was appointed corporal.

On February 10, 1899, the regiment was mustered out of the service by 1st Lieutenant John T. Martin, at Camp Fornance near Macon, Georgia. The following is the roster of Company D as mustered out:

Captain, Edwin S. Mathias; 1st lieutenant, Robert Webster; 2nd lieutenant, Elias W. Martz; 1st sergeant, Arthur C. Gilpin; quartermaster sergeant, George W. Klein; sergeants, Ernest W. Kear, William F. Himmelreich, Harry L. Scott and Guy P. Davidson; corporals—Charles M. Siders, Otis C. Ross, Frank E. Estill, Orville E. Blake, Joe P. Dunlap, Burton L. Smith, Albert T. Mathews, Billie M. Cole, Verne B. McConahay, J. Sibley Neel, Corwin S. West and Otto R. Pennell; musicians—Roy J. Moore and Samuel Johnson; artificer, Johnson Wilson; wagoner, James C. Craig; cook, Thomas E. Mullen; privates—Leon E. Andrews, Richard Angevine, William E. Ball, Dan M. Collett, George C. Carnahan, Edward F. Crone, Arthur C. Crone, Thomas A. Campbell, Fred Campbell, Charles Campbell, Curtis L. Conn, Daniel V. Carter, Evan R. Daniels, Oria Dominy, Charles Dasher, Man-

ton Dippery, William L. Davis, Charles O. Decker, Curtis E. Fair, Harry C. Fritcher, Fred Gorman, William A. Griffith, David Guinn, Charles Guinn, George Glosette, George Hayler, Jr., Harry G. Hagerman, George M. Hinderleiter, Harry M. Hyatt, Harry S. Harmaon, John F. Hoelzer, Charles N. Imbody, William T. Johns, Fred B. Kimmel, William C. Krout, Byron Klein, Pearl Knott, Henry C. Kundert, Carey C. Lichty, Wells W. LeHew, Garrett Louer, Leonard J. Marker, Adam C. Martin, Frederick G. Martin, Joe Miller, Clyde O. Miller, Arthur Miller, Charles W. Mullen, Elmore K. Murlin, Carl C. Michael, Hilas A. Morgan, Carey C. McLaughlin, Ernest McPike, Glenn H. McIlvaine, James Norris, B. Frank Norris, Ben. T. Norris, Robert L. Pennell, Charles H. Price, William M. Parent, William E. Reese, Alonzo S. Ricketts, Earl Raudabaugh, William Sheeter, Charles W. Swartz, Henry Samsel, Amos P. Strohl, Elmer L. Schultz, Foster Siders, John Stanley, John F. Streit, George H. Trisler, John H. Welker, Curteus W. Wilson and Ernest C. Zeigler—a total of three officers and 98 enlisted men.

The company left Van Wert on April 26, 1898, and joined the regiment at Kenton, Ohio, on the same day. The regiment proceeded to Camp Bushnell at Columbus, Ohio, April 29th, and was mustered into the army of the United States, May 10th. It left Camp Bushnell for Camp George H. Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Georgia, May 16th. It proceeded to Camp Poland, Knoxville, Tennessee, August 28th, and to Camp Fornance, Macon, Georgia, November 15th, where it was mustered out February 10, 1899.

Company D. was with its battalion at camp Campbell near Camp George H. Thomas, from July 16 to July 20, 1898, for rifle practice, and served in the city of Macon on provost duty from December 24, 1898, to January 7, 1899.

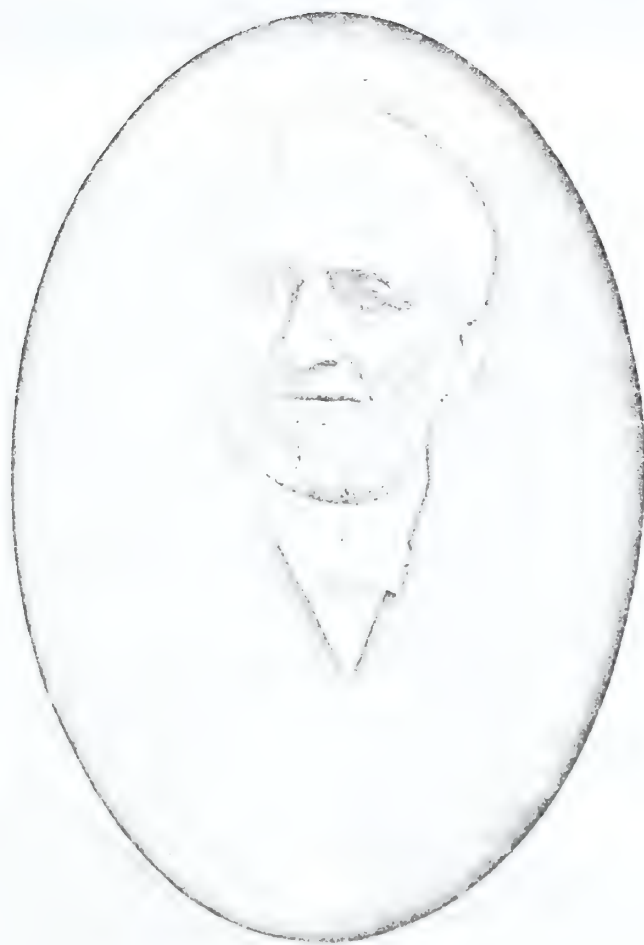
COMPANY D, SECOND INFANTRY, OHIO NATIONAL GUARD,

Was organized March 4, 1904, at Van Wert, and mustered into the service by Assistant Adjutant General Worthington Kautzman. The following is the roster of the company on January 22, 1906:

Captain, Arthur C. Gilpin; 1st lieutenant, Curteus W. Wilson; 2nd lieutenant, Charles M. Siders; 1st sergeant, Orville E. Blake; quartermaster sergeant, Edward F. Crone; sergeants—George Tibbott, Leroy W. Clippinger and James T. Ramsey; corporals—Jesse J. Good, Orin L. Tall, Robert Johns, Albert N. Ramsey, Orlie Budd and Ira Snyder; musicians—William C. Linser and Charles O. Spahr; artificer, James W. Holder; cook, Charles M. Howell; privates—Fred Alling-

ham, Richard, Allingham, Alfred Arnold, Francis Aldrich, James A. Allard, Jesse J. Adams, Harlie Budd, Oscar E. Boyer, Charles Burden, Jesse W. Butler, Angus C. Colby, Ira Davis, Fred W. Davis, Cliff DeLong, Charles O. Essley, Wilbur G. Edgington, Clyde Fish, Charles V. Grafelmann, Clyde Harvey, Harry O. Harvey, Harry O. Handwerck, Alfred M. Ireland, Guy V. Johns, Paul W. Kear, Roy D. Kear, John F. Kreider, Andrew C. Kreider, James E. Lhamon, Bert F. Lhamon, Earl Long, Curtis M. Martin, Curtis C. Myers, Oscar Musser, A. B. Miller, William A. Morrison, Clarence McConahay, Merlin L. Ramsey, Cuvie Riggan, Howard W. Sharp, Clayton F. Thatcher, Orman E. Trafzer, Jurry A. Thomas, William E. Urton, Arthur A. Walcutt, Frank Webb, Joe J. Welker and Lewis B. Wilson.

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REV. JAMES F. MOUNTS

Representative Citizens

REV. JAMES F. MOUNTS, a superannuated minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church (if it be permissible to speak of a minister as retired who still takes a very active part in church work), has been engaged in work for the Master since 1858, the greater portion of this long period within a few miles of Van Wert where he now resides. He was born December 17, 1824, on a farm in Pleasant township, Marion County, Ohio, and is a son of Humphrey and Sarah (Fleming) Mounts, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania.

The parents of Mr. Mounts were married in Delaware County, Ohio, and later moved to Marion County where the father purchased and cleared a farm of 160 acres. They were honest, hardworking people, who bravely faced the hardships and dangers of the new country in order to found a home for themselves and children. The nearest white neighbors were five miles distant, while the Indians were numerous and always in evidence. Both parents died on this farm, the father passing away during the Civil War, in which he was too old to take part, although he had been a soldier in the War of 1812. There were 13 children in the family, 11 of whom reached maturity and were married, their progeny being numerous and widely scattered—but of the 11 children men-

tioned, the only survivor is the subject of this sketch.

James F. Mounts remained with his parents, assisting in the work of the farm, until his 19th year, when his earnest ambition to obtain an education resulted in his entering the Wesleyan University, at Delaware, Ohio. Lack of means, however, caused his withdrawal at the expiration of two and a half years; but this period had been spent in hard study, and the knowledge there obtained was the foundation which, by a course of systematic and comprehensive reading, he reared a structure of useful and almost unlimited information. For a few years after leaving college he was engaged in teaching in the common schools, the union schools and as principal of the Delaware school, during the last four years residing at Prospect.

An important epoch in Mr. Mounts' career and one which had great influence over his entire life was his marriage on September 18, 1847, to Ellen Landon, who was his constant inspiration and guide. Mrs. Mounts was born in October, 1825, in the southern part of Marion County, near the village of Prospect, and was a daughter of Darius and Mary (Bowen) Landon, who were natives of the State of Pennsylvania, whence they came as pioneers to Ohio. Their family consisted of

3 sons and 6 daughters. Mrs. Mounts was engaged in teaching school for 12 years previous to her marriage and in that, as in all that she undertook, was most successful. She was a lady of rare charms, both physical and intellectual, her personal beauty being of an unusual type—her rosy cheeks and coal-black eyes being in striking contrast with her beautiful auburn hair, which surmounted pleasant and kindly features. She took great interest in her husband's work and the influence she exercised over all those about her was a most wonderful gift, contributing in a marked degree to smooth many of the rough places in the road traveled by the pioneer circuit rider. Mrs. Ellen Mounts answered the summons which called her to the higher life on October 5, 1897, amid the universal and heartfelt sorrow of those she left behind. Something of the wonderful patience and loveliness of the lady may be gained from these words of the bereaved husband: "In all the 50 years and 18 days of our married life I have never once seen her real angry." The children of Rev. and Mrs. James F. Mounts were as follows: Mary Ellen, who is the wife of D. H. Myers, of Allen County; Sarah Florence and a child, both of whom died in infancy; James E., who is married and resides with his father; and Emma Luella (Oyler), who died at the age of 26 years.

In September, 1858, James F. Mounts received a recommendation from Prospect to the Methodist Episcopal Conference of Central Ohio, which met at West Liberty, Ohio, and appointed him to the Richwood circuit. He was given a hearty invitation to return to this field after his term concluded, but the conference thought best to give him a new charge and he was sent to Celina, Ohio. After two years there, in 1861, he was assigned to the Van Wert circuit where he remained two years. In the fall of 1863 he was assigned to the Del-

phos circuit, where he remained three years. From Delphos he went to St. Marys, where he remained two years. He was then assigned to the Van Wert circuit for two years, one year of which he had a regular station in connection with the circuit work. For the two years following he had charge of the Marysville (Union County) circuit, after which for two years he had the Bryan (Williams County) circuit. He then had the Mendon circuit for two years, during which period he made his home at Van Wert. He was then assigned to the Elida circuit; he moved his family there and remained in charge of that circuit two years. For more than 40 years he was pastor of the various charges within a radius of 20 miles of Van Wert and resided here 12 years of this period. After leaving Elida he was at Convoy, St. Marys, Ohio City, Celina, Rockford and Dixon, during which period he resided in Van Wert, except when he served in Rockford.

Mr. Mounts has been one of the most successful ministers in this circuit, and never failed to raise the money with which to pay off the indebtedness on church or parsonage wherever he was stationed. Churches were built by him at Newton and Salem, and two in this circuit. In 1897 he was superannuated, but his lifelong habits of industry have ill fitted him to be content with idleness and he has acted as supply many times, besides preaching at about 50 funerals, within the past two years, and performing an equal number of weddings. He has united over 900 couples in his life, and read the last words of hope and comfort over as many caskets, often exceeding 40 per year. There are numerous cases where he has married the father and mother and all their children; where he has married and preached the funerals of whole families. During the first three years of his ministry he drew a salary of

\$300 per year, out of which he paid his own house rent; his highest salary has never exceeded \$900; during all the years of his ministry his yearly salary averaged about \$700. Out of this, by rare good management, he has managed to lay aside a competency. His savings were carefully invested here and in addition to a 75-acre farm on the Defiance road, about two and a half miles from Van Wert, he owns a tract of $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres just outside the city limits, upon which he has recently completed a comfortable residence.

Rev. James F. Mounts is a Republican, and still takes the liveliest interest in the outcome of a political struggle. While teaching in Marion County, he was a candidate for county treasurer, and received a very flattering vote; his opponent, a cousin, who was a local preacher and a Democrat, was elected by a majority of only 60 in a county which usually went Democratic by an overwhelming majority. Even now, when possible, Mr. Mounts is a faithful attendant at primaries and other political meetings. For a number of years he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity and is a man whose friends are not only legion, but scattered through all the secular walks and found in every religious denomination. A portrait of Mr. Mounts accompanies this sketch.



GEORGE JOSEPH EBLEN, M. D., for many years one of the leading medical practitioners of Van Wert County, retired from active practice of his profession some years ago to give his whole time and attention to the Home Guards of America, a fraternal insurance society of which he was one of the founders and of which he is now Supreme Counselor. He

was born September 22, 1852, at Vevay, Switzerland County, Indiana, and is a son of David and Sarah (Buchanan) Eblen.

David Eblen, father of Dr. Eblen, was born in 1806 in Virginia, but was reared in Indiana, where he resided all his life, being variously engaged in brick-laying, farming and merchandising in Vevay. His death occurred in 1882 while on a visit in Kentucky. In 1830 David Eblen was married in Indiana to Sarah Buchanan, who died in 1858. His second marriage was to Mrs. Mary Sachwell, of Ghent, Kentucky. The children of the first marriage were: Sarah, deceased; James; Elizabeth; John Lawson; Nettie; Fletcher, deceased; George Joseph; and Charles, deceased. One daughter was born to the second union. David Eblen was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was identified with the Republican party.

George Joseph Eblen, after the death of his mother, lost interest in what had been his happy home and, a child of 10 years, accepted a home with a neighboring farmer, finding in him a just and generous protector. He was given school advantages which in his case were thoroughly appreciated. At the age of 19 years he passed a teacher's examination and secured a license to teach. In 1873 he was graduated at Bryant & Stratton's Business College, at Louisville, Kentucky, and then accepted a position on that institution's faculty for a year, going from there to another commercial college in the same city, where he taught a year. Returning to Indiana, he continued to teach school until 1875, in the meantime reading as many medical works as his leisure time afforded, and then attended a course of lectures in the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville. His next five years he spent with Dr. J. M. Sweezy, at Cross Plains,

Indiana, and subsequently he was a student in the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, where he was graduated in 1880.

When Dr. Eblen took up the practice of his profession, he located at Shasta, Van Wert County, Ohio, where he continued for six years. In 1886 he removed to Van Wert and for one year was associated with Dr. W. H. Christopher. He then practiced alone until 1899, when he relinquished his practice to devote his talents and energies to the Home Guards of America, then a young organization. When engaged actively in his profession, he kept abreast of the progress made in the medical world and enjoyed post-graduate work in the New York Polyclinic College. He is a valued and useful member of the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association.

On December 7, 1881, Dr. Eblen was married to Carrie Niles, who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, January 19, 1854, and is a daughter of the late venerable Barnabas Niles, whose sketch follows this.

In addition to valuable property in Cincinnati, Dr. Eblen owns a considerable amount in Van Wert, including one of the handsome residences on South Washington street, which is frequently the scene of pleasant social functions. Both Dr. and Mrs. Eblen are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Van Wert. The family stands as one of the leading ones in social life in this city.

Dr. Eblen is fraternally connected with a number of the leading organizations of the country, being a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and is prominent also in the beneficiary orders of the National Union and the Home Guards of America.

That the large fraternal insurance society known as the Home Guards of America has met with unqualified success in its life of a little more than six years, has been chiefly due to

the efforts of Dr. Eblen. The organization of the society was perfected in Van Wert in the year 1899 and has shown a remarkable growth in the succeeding years. On December 31, 1905, the number of benefit certificates was 8,908 and up to that time \$237,174.30 had been paid out in settlement of death claims. There are 125 Homes in the following States: Ohio, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Michigan and Kentucky. On another page of this work will appear a view of the Home Guards Temple, erected in Van Wert in 1906, which was planned by Dr. Eblen, at a cost of \$75,000, which is acknowledged to be the most pretentious and substantial structure in the city. It is four stories high and has ground dimensions of 66 by 132 feet. At the time that the Home Guards of America was organized, Dr. Eblen gave up his medical practice and has ever since labored most earnestly in behalf of the Order, giving it his entire time and attention. Whenever there have been responsibilities to be assumed, he has accepted them, furnishing funds during the early years of the order to keep it going until it was well established. At the present time Dr. Eblen is at the head of the order, serving in the office of supreme counselor. He is also managing editor of the *Home Guards Monitor*, published at Van Wert every month, which is the official organ of the fraternity.



BARNABAS NILES. The late Barnabas Niles, whose death occurred September 19, 1905, at the age of 98 years, deserves from the biographer much more than a passing notice. His life covered a long period of his country's history and was replete with all that goes to make true and noble manhood. He was born in a log cabin on what is known as Delta avenue, in Cincinnati,

Ohio, September 20, 1807, a son of Barnabas Niles, the name being a family one, appearing in every generation since 1642, when three brothers of the name of Niles, came to Massachusetts from England, passengers in the good ship "Speedwell." The elder Barnabas Niles removed from Haverhill, Massachusetts, to Cincinnati, Ohio, in December, 1806, making the journey over the mountains by way of wagons to Pittsburg, and then floating down the Ohio River in a flatboat. He lived for a short time in a house at Columbia and then bought several hundred acres of land, all of which is now included in the city of Cincinnati. The elder Barnabas married a daughter of Capt. William Butler, who was one of the heroes of Bunker Hill. He owned a residence on the west side of Main street, in Cincinnati. Both the Butler and Niles families were closely connected with the early history of Cincinnati and owned many of the early utilities of that city and acres and acres of the surrounding land. Old Wesley Chapel Cemetery, in the heart of the city of Cincinnati, is a most interesting spot to these families as in that sacred enclosure rests the dust of many of their ancestors. Among the living, the most distinguished families of that city trace their connections with these families.

The late Barnabas Niles was married at the age of 27 years to Parnell Lane, and it is interesting to note that his marriage license was signed by William Henry Harrison, who afterward became President of the United States. His wife preceded him to the grave by many years. The two surviving daughters are, Mrs. J. W. Evans and Mrs. G. J. Eblen, of Van Wert. Quoting from a journal issued at the time of his death, the following lines are given concerning this remarkable man, whose blameless life had so far exceeded that of almost all of his contemporaries: "A con-

science void of offense in all his dealings with his fellow-men; a sense of justice and commercial honesty; a devotion to his family and friends which often led him to share with those less fortunate than himself; a dignity born of self-respect and conscious rectitude; an industry that never ceased—these were the characteristics which gained him the respect and admiration of his friends." The last years of Mr. Niles' life were passed at Van Wert, where his death took place.


JOSEPH N. SADLER D. D. S., who is engaged in the practice of dentistry, at Delphos, his office being located in the Hemick Block on Main street, is a son of Professor and Mrs. William H. Sadler, and was born July 13, 1877, at Mount Healthy, Hamilton County, Ohio.

Prof. William H. Sadler was born at Elizabethtown, Ohio, in 1844. For a great many years he was a professor in Hamilton County schools until compelled to retire on account of poor health. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary E. Bush, was born in 1849 at Aurora, Indiana.

After completing his education in the schools of Hamilton County, Joseph N. Sadler took up the study of dentistry, entering the office of Drs. A. J. Swing and Eugene Cox, of Cincinnati, who were the proprietors of the best equipped dental laboratory in the State. In the year 1899 he was appointed demonstrator of prosthetic dentistry and orthodontia in the Miami College of Dental Surgery, which position he filled until 1901 when he became a student in the dental surgery department of the Ohio University at Athens, Ohio. In 1903 he graduated from this institution with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, bearing off

the honors of the class. Following his graduation he practiced for a year and a half in Venice, Ohio, and then located permanently at Delphos, opening his office on Main street, where his superior work has attracted public attention and brought him a large per cent. of the dental work in Delphos and vicinity, placing him with the leading dentists of the city.

On April 26, 1905, Dr. Joseph N. Sadler and Bessie Hay were united in marriage.

EVI F. ZIMMERMAN, whose beautifully situated home, "Lyndon Cottage," is located at the east end of Central avenue, Van Wert, with 20 acres of improved land surrounding it, is one of the city's most respected and esteemed retired citizens. Mr. Zimmerman has passed the greater part of his life in Van Wert County. He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, November 13, 1835, and is a son of Abraham and Rebecca (Todd) Zimmerman.

The Zimmerman family is of German extraction. Abraham Zimmerman, father of our subject, was born in Union County, Pennsylvania, May 20, 1813. Left an orphan at an early age, he was reared to the age of 15 years in the home of an uncle, and then removed to Ashland County, Ohio, learned the trade of a carpenter with his brother John, married in that county and lived there until 1839, when he came to Van Wert County, of which he has been a resident ever since. After the death of his wife in 1904, he removed from his farm to the home of his son, Levi F. Zimmerman. He is one of the oldest residents of the county. Until his health failed, he followed his trade, doing a great deal of the carpenter work required in his neighborhood in the early days. When he settled in the county, there were but

few sawmills and it was difficult to obtain prepared lumber. In case of death, the carpenter often officiated also as undertaker. Mr. Zimmerman remembers a coffin he fashioned; having no lumber on hand, he constructed it with slabs cut from an old cherry stump, dressed with a broad-axe and plane. In going to the place of interment it was customary at that time for the undertaker to lead the funeral procession, taking the coffin with him in a wagon, while the bereaved members of the family followed on horseback or in wagons. Mr. Zimmerman assisted in laying the floor of the first frame Court House of Van Wert and also helped in the finishing work. When he came to Van Wert County, he walked the entire way from Ashland County. His first land in Van Wert County was a tract of 160 acres, located in Tully township. Later he bought a farm of 40 acres on the Jennings road in Ridge township. After these two farms were sold, he purchased his present farm, which then consisted of 120 acres, and later added 25 acres. He improved this land and lived upon the property until a little over a year ago; a portion of it was disposed of it some time ago and he is now the owner of 114.77 acres. He has owned and disposed of other lands and properties. During the greater part of his mature life he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Abraham Zimmerman married Rebecca Todd, who was born in Ashland County, Ohio, in May, 1813, being just seven days younger than her husband. She died October 17, 1904. Their married life was just 13 days less than 70 years. The children of this marriage were: Levi F.; Eliza Jane, who married H. G. Lehmann, a veteran of the Civil War, who lives in Van Wert; Sarah Elizabeth, who died in young

womanhood; Mary Ann Amanda, who married Madison Northrup, an old soldier, who resides east of Van Wert; Esther Ann, who died in infancy; Naomi Helen, who married David McNall, of Northern Indiana, now a resident of Van Wert County; and John A., a promising young man who died at the age of 18 years, just after completing his education, being the first male student to graduate from the Van Wert High School.

Levi F. Zimmerman was about four years of age when he accompanied his parents to Van Wert County. His education was obtained in Van Wert, school sessions being held in a log house; before this was ready, school was taught in a private dwelling. Off and on, Levi remained in school until he was 15 years old and then entered upon a mercantile career, with which he was more or less connected all through his active years. Mr. Zimmerman was a born merchant, his leaning in this direction becoming apparent in his childhood, when one of his favorite plays was to gather his companions about him and "play store."

The young man began clerking about this time in the general store of Edward R. Wells. When he was 18 years of age, he began to teach school and continued to teach in his home neighborhood for about nine terms, mainly in the winter season, living at home in the meanwhile. He alternated teaching with clerking, being an employee of Abraham Jacobs, who conducted the first clothing store in the city. He also clerked in Anderson's and other stores and for one season was in the photographic business. He worked a year for his father but was not pleased with an agricultural life and afterward secured a clerkship in a dry goods store at Mansfield, Ohio, where he remained four years. Upon his return to Van Wert, he continued to clerk until 1866, when he formed

a partnership and entered into a dry goods business with T. S. McKim. Their first store was located on Washington street back of the McKim corner, but in a short time they moved to a frame building on Main street, owned by Mr. McKim. Later on, George Hall bought Mr. McKim's interests and the firm for a short time was known as Zimmerman & Hall; then Mr. Zimmerman bought Mr. Hall's interests and continued the business as sole proprietor for a time at the same stand, finally purchasing a brick block, now owned and occupied by J. O. Roberts. He continued in business a number of years after moving into this building and then gradually retired from business activity. After he had disposed of the greater part of his commercial interests, he conducted a notion store for a while and finally withdrew entirely.

September 15, 1869, Mr. Zimmerman was married to Mary E. Webster, who was born in Jamestown, Greene County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Rev. Ebenezer T. and Sarah Sophiniah (Lane) Webster. The father was born in New York in 1795 and was taken to Ohio by his parents when young. He grew up an ambitious youth and educated himself and was subsequently admitted to the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It is said that he carried his grammar with him and studied on the long horseback trips he had to make over the country. At a conference of his church, held in 1820, when the bishop called for volunteers to go to the far West, meaning the State of Missouri, Mr. Webster was one of the four who expressed themselves willing to accept the hardships of such a life. After six years on the border he returned to Ohio and with the exception of one year, during which he was stationed at Parkersburg, West Virginia, his charges were located in this State.

living some years in Union County, but passing the last six years of his life in Van Wert, where he died in 1877.

Mr. Webster's wife, Sarah Sophiniah Lane, was born in Buncombe County, North Carolina, on the Blue Ridge Mountains, November 6, 1804. She was 11 years old when her parents moved to Missouri, the long wagon trip taking from November to March. She resided with our subject for the last 16 years of her life. Dying in 1892. Of the 10 children born to Mr. and Mrs. Webster, a number died in childhood. Of those who grew to maturity, Rev. Barton A. Webster became a well-known minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church; he died in Van Wert in 1866. Mrs. Zimmerman's oldest sister died in Kansas City, Missouri, 1894. Her maternal grandfather, Capt. Charles Lane, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was with General Washington at Valley Forge. He enlisted from Georgia and died in Missouri. Mrs. Zimmerman was afforded excellent educational advantages and was graduated at Delaware College, Ohio, in 1863 and subsequently taught school, both in Ohio and Iowa. She began teaching in Van Wert, Ohio, in March, 1868, and was one of the first teachers in the Central school building. This most estimable lady is now president of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the first Methodist Episcopal Church of Van Wert, to which position she was elected some seven years since. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman have two children, viz.: Mary Levinna and Ernest Merle, both living at home.

Mr. Zimmerman has been identified with the Republican party all his life. He has always taken an active part in the duties and privileges of the church, and while living at Mansfield he was librarian of the Sunday-school and was also a member of the church choir. Upon his return to Van Wert, he as-

sisted in organizing the first choir in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and was secretary of the Sunday-school for a number of years. Since August 27, 1866, he has been secretary of the Van Wert County Bible Society, and since April 25, 1876, has been secretary of the board of trustees of the First Methodist Episcopal Church. He was one of the largest subscribers to the fund for building a new Methodist church. Mr. Zimmerman was, also, one of the first directors of the Van Wert County Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which was organized in 1876. When the building of what is now known as the Cincinnati Northern Railroad was first agitated, Mr. Zimmerman was one of the first subscribers to the fund. He is a man whose long life and honorable achievements have entitled him to the respect and esteem shown him on every side.



ALEXANDER MENTZER, one of the leading citizens of this county, president of the Board of County Commissioners, is the owner of a fine farm of 160 acres, together with 11 acres within the limits of the town of Convoy. He was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, January 19, 1852, and is a son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Roop) Mentzer. His parents were old-time residents of Van Wert County and the father was one of its representative men. He was elected county commissioner a number of terms and was well and favorably known in all parts of the county. The father died April 9, 1905, at the age of 86 years. He was a man universally respected and left a large property to his family. He reared nine children, four of whom are living.

Alexander Mentzer, our subject, was educated in his native county and was reared to



ANDREW JACKSON GLEASON

manhood on his father's farm. As stated above, he owns a choice farm in the county, but makes his home in the growing town of Convoy. Politically Mr. Mentzer is a Democrat. In 1899 he was first elected to the office of county commissioner and in 1902 was re-elected, his record for efficiency in guarding the interests of the public gaining him the confidence of his fellow-citizens of both parties.

Alexander Mentzer was united in marriage with Hattie Miller, and they have two daughters—Marion and Lelia. Mr. Mentzer's family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have many pleasant social connections and show much hospitality to their neighbors and friends.

ANDREW JACKSON GLEASON, a resident of Van Wert, and one of its honored and esteemed citizens, is a survivor of the great Civil War in which he bore a prominent part. He is a descendant of one of the pioneer families of this county, but was born November 27, 1836, in Manchester township, Ontario County, New York. He is a son of Joseph and Mary (Brown) Gleason.

The family removed from New York to Ohio in 1837, and in 1839 settled in the little hamlet that then represented the present busy, prosperous city of Van Wert. By the time he was old enough to begin his education, a village school had been established, which he attended until he was 16 years old, when he entered his father's sawmill. Gifted with a natural talent for music, the youth had comparatively little opportunity to develop it until 1859, when he enjoyed one term at the Normal Musical Institute, Chicago, returning to that city in 1860, when he came under the instruction of those

notable masters of music—Dr. Mason, George F. Root and William B. Bradbury. Perhaps it is not always a profitable matter of consideration, but it is undoubtedly interesting, to speculate as to the outcome of the lives of ourselves and our contemporaries, had circumstances been other than they were. On the very threshold of manhood, in the possession of talents which seemingly only awaited time, training and experience to make him a great musician, every current of his being was suddenly changed by the outburst of the Civil War. He did not pause to temporize, but at once put heart and soul into the business of organizing a company for his country's service, entering the ranks of what became Company H, 15th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf. He saw as much hard service as any other member of the regiment and participated in many of the most serious battles of the war, beginning with the battle at Pittsburg Landing. He was at Corinth, and after the march of General Buell's army to Stevenson, Alabama, was promoted to the rank of 2nd sergeant, soon after being detailed with a recruiting detachment which left for Ohio and had many stirring adventures. By the middle of October he reported to his regiment, accompanied by 15 recruits, all thoroughly equipped, and found that during his absence he had been promoted to be 1st sergeant of Company H. He participated in the battles which succeeded each other so rapidly—Stone River, Liberty Gap and Chickamauga. At the last named engagement he was twice wounded, the second injury, received while he was gallantly leading his command, being of a very serious nature. He was one of those fallen heroes who were forced to remain on the battle-field, seemingly neglected, despite the almost super-human efforts of their comrades to relieve them. It was not until the evening of the second day that Sergeant Gleason managed to reach Ross-

ville and Chattanooga, and subsequently, after sufferings terrible to recall, the hospital at Nashville. After some attention there, he was sent home on a furlough, where his home surgeon accomplished his recovery. It was during this period that he received a conditional commission as 2nd lieutenant.

After the expiration of his first term of service, Mr. Gleason re-enlisted as a veteran, joined his command at Nashville, and, although still feeble from the effects of his wound, marched with his company to Chattanooga. Shortly afterward he was promoted to be sergeant-major of his regiment, and served as such at Resaca, Pickett's Mills and Kenesaw Mountain, in front of Atlanta being commissioned 2nd lieutenant of Company A. Lieutenant Gleason remained with his company during the siege of Atlanta, the subsequent flank movement to Jonesboro (which resulted in the city's capture) and the return movement to Tennessee under General Thomas. He took part in the battles of Franklin and Nashville and at the latter engagement the command of the company fell to him by the death of Lieutenant Hanson, who was killed on Overton Hill.

Lieutenant Gleason continued in command of the company during the pursuit of General Hood into Alabama and until the arrival of the Fourth Army Corps at Huntsville, when the troops went into winter quarters. For the gallant manner in which he had performed a soldier's duties he received here a commission as 1st lieutenant, and was appointed adjutant of the regiment. He participated in the advance of the forces into Eastern Tennessee, the rendezvous at Nashville, after the surrender of the Confederate leaders, and the expedition to Texas, in July, 1865. While at San Antonio, Texas, Lieutenant Gleason was proffered a captain's commission, but, from reasons

which did credit to the manliness of his character, declined the advancement. After some four months in Texas, his regiment was mustered out at San Antonio, November 21, 1865. On December 25th following the regiment reached Columbus, Ohio, and, after his honorable service and discharge, Mr. Gleason returned to the bosom of his family at Van Wert. Through the years of prosperity which have attended him since, he has remained true to his home in this city.

Shortly after the war, Mr. Gleason embarked, with others, in the manufacture of wagon and carriage wood stock, the firm of J. A. Gleason & Brother standing very high in commercial circles to the present day. In everything of a public-spirited nature promising to benefit Van Wert, he has also taken a very active interest and has given moral and financial encouragement to a number of its laudable enterprises.

Mr. Gleason was married February 28, 1866, to Dorothea Adeline Disbrow, who was born January 17, 1841, in Lorain County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Orville and Fannie M. (Buck) Disbrow, natives of Delaware County, New York. In 1853 the father of Mrs. Gleason removed to Hardin County, Ohio, in 1854 to Van Wert County, and in 1859 to Fulton County. Mrs. Gleason's beautiful life closed on March 15, 1893, at the age of 52 years and two months, and her mortal remains rest in the shades of Woodland Cemetery, at Van Wert. She was a member of the Disciples Church with which she had been associated since girlhood. For a number of years she took a prominent part in the auxiliary organization of the Odd Fellows—the Daughters of Rebekah—of which she had been past noble grand and a delegate to the State assembly of the order. From its organization she had been interested in the Woman's Relief Corps and

was past president of William C. Scott Corps. Until failing health prevented, she was untiring in the performance of the duties of membership in these organizations and in other philanthropies into which she was led by her loving sympathy with all in need. Mrs. Gleason was the mother of seven children, three of whom died in early childhood, those who survived to maturity being: Mariette, born November 25, 1866, who died April 30, 1893, formerly a successful and beloved teacher; Fannie M., wife of I. N. Giffin, county surveyor of Van Wert County—Mrs. Giffin is a past noble grand of Pearl Lodge, Daughters of Rebekah; Lillia M., wife of D. W. Armentrout, a railroad man residing at Van Wert; and Nellie E., who is also a past noble grand of Pearl Lodge, Daughters of Rebekah. Nellie E. Gleason was married February 11, 1906, to George W. Bevington, of Chicago, where they reside.

Politically Mr. Gleason is a Republican. Fraternally he has been prominently identified with the Odd Fellows, G. A. R. and A. O. U. W., filling high offices in these organizations. His portrait accompanies this sketch.



WILLIAM A. CLARK, one of Van Wert's most prominent citizens, with whose interests he has been intimately associated for many years, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, November 21, 1830, and is a son of Samuel McKnight and Lydia (Daugherty) Clark.

Samuel McKnight Clark came to Van Wert in 1838. In 1834 he removed from Cincinnati to the vicinity of Chillicothe, Ross County, and resided there two years, removing then to Allen County, and, as above stated, two years later to Van Wert. Samuel M. Clark

was one of the earliest as well as most enterprising business men at Van Wert. He started the first blacksmith shop and general store and he also conducted a hotel. In his family of seven children, William A. was the second born.

William A. Clark was four years old when his parents moved to Ross County and eight years old when they settled at Van Wert, where he attended school until he was 14 years of age, since which time he has practically made his own way in the world. Very early in life he encountered difficulties and very early learned that industry and honesty would materially assist in overcoming them. In the early days boys naturally turned to the trades for a means of livelihood. Before William A. Clark found a favorable opening in the wagon-making industry he attended to the horses connected with a hotel stable. After working two years as a wagon-maker, his health failed before completing his apprenticeship, and hence he gladly accepted an offer made by Robert Gilliland to come to his home and attend to the chores and also to go to school again. Mr. Clark remained with Mr. Gilliland for two years and then accepted a position as a clerk in a dry goods store at Van Wert. That he proved himself a young man of reliability and one in whom his fellow-citizens could repose confidence, was shown in 1854, when he, a young man of but 24 years, was elected recorder of Van Wert County, in which position he served satisfactorily for a term of three years.

Mr. Clark continued to be a prominent factor in the business and political affairs of his locality, and he became so representative a citizen that after the election of President Lincoln he was appointed postmaster at Van Wert. He continued to serve in this office during the Civil war and until the assassination of Pres-

ident Lincoln. Following this public calamity when the administrative power fell into the hands of Vice-President Johnson, Mr. Clark was deposed, as a result, in all probability, of his freely-spoken convictions of political honesty and his free declarations regarding then existing conditions in public affairs. He remained out of office until the election of General Grant again brought the Republican party to the front, when he was again appointed. In all Mr. Clark served as postmaster at Van Wert for nine years and established a record of being a notably efficient public officer.

Since 1861 Mr. Clark had been in business for himself. He first started a book and news depot, and shortly afterward became agent for the American Express Company, being the second appointee of this company in Van Wert. For several years he prospered in business, but there came sudden misfortune upon him, brought about by the very qualities which have made Mr. Clark esteemed by those who know him best. In a business transaction he was led to endorse the paper of a friend and this ultimately caused him to lose nearly all he possessed. He had by this time numerous interests. In association with his father-in-law he built a mill and ran it for a short time, but the enterprise did not prove profitable and he was sold out by the sheriff. He then went to Paulding and engaged in a mill enterprise which also failed. Returning to Van Wert, he purchased the mill which he had formerly owned and resumed milling. He continued to operate this mill for 21 years, until it was destroyed by fire, in January, 1896. Mr. Clark did not rebuild the mill but utilized the old mill property in another way. He had on the property a substantial building, which he remodeled so as to provide comfortable homes for five families. He has also four dwelling houses on the


old mill site. Mr. Clark's own residence, which is situated at No. 233 West Jackson street, is the largest on the property, excepting the flat building.

Mr. Clark has been twice married. On August 6, 1854, at Marion, Ohio, he married Lydia A. Baker, who was born in that city and was a daughter of Rev. George W. Baker, a minister of the Free Will Baptist Church. They had three children, viz.: George W., who died in infancy; Luella Hollington, who died aged 16 years; and Princess Lydia. The latter is the wife of E. C. Long, of Paris, Kentucky. Mrs. Long is a musician of exceptional attainments and is remarkably gifted as a vocalist. She is a graduate of the Fort Wayne Musical College and has devoted a large portion of her life to the development and use of her musical gifts. She has given many private concerts and is widely known all over the United States as an evangelistic singer.

On October 12, 1864, Mr. Clark was married to Virginia A. Mahan, who was born near Jamestown, Greene County, Ohio, and was a daughter of Charles Mahan. The death of Mrs. Clark took place September 7, 1887. She was survived by five children, as follows: Charles W., Alice, Maude A., John Frederick, and Margaret A. Charles W. Clark, who is distinguished as one of the finest baritone singers in the musical world, is now (1906) touring in the United States under the direction of F. Wight Neumann. His home is in the city of Paris, France. Alice is a trained nurse, a graduate of the Boston City Hospital Training School, and resides at home. Maude A. is the wife of Joseph Scott, of Bakersfield, California. John Frederick is a practicing physician and surgeon at Denver, Colorado. Margaret A. is the wife of H. M. Wilkinson, of Toledo, Ohio.

For a period of 55 years William A. Clark has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal

Church, and for a protracted period has been one of the trustees of the church at Van Wert. He has always been notably public-spirited and many of the infant industries, which now make the city one of importance, have felt his helping hand. Through his life Mr. Clark has been known as a thoroughly honest, outspoken man, and his numberless friends, neighbors and fellow-citizens have never been left long in doubt concerning his sentiments where right and wrong were in question. At the same time, his bearing toward others, in the conduct of the affairs of business and of official life, has been genial and considerate, marking him as one whose impulses are governed with the highest conception of integrity and also of the fullness of the obligations of one man to another. Thus he has forged ties of friendship strong as steel. In all that concerns the public welfare of this city of residence, William A. Clark still remains generous with his time, means and interest.

RANCIS H. STALLKAMP, vice-president of the Delphos National Bank, a venerated citizen and the oldest merchant of the town, has been a resident of the United States for many years, but was born in Hanover, Germany, September 25, 1824, his parents living at that time in the province of Osnabruck.

Mr. Stallkamp remained in his native land until past his majority, complying with the laws and securing the education accorded every German child. In 1847 he embarked on a sailing vessel and crossed the Atlantic to the shores of America. His first permanent location was at Buffalo, New York, and he remembers crossing the first iron bridge built in that city, which structure was looked upon as being as great a feat of engineering at that day, as

some of the notable modern undertakings of the present appear to be. In 1848 Mr. Stallkamp came to Ohio and found work in a saw-mill near Delphos. Game was very abundant in the forests where he was engaged in cutting and hauling logs, and wolves were troublesome and sometimes dangerous. The leading inn at Delphos was the American House, a hostelry which accommodated the traveling public at this trading station. For a time he acted as hostler here and also did other work in the neighborhood, butchering and dealing to some extent in cattle and horses. No railroads had yet been built through this section, but engineers were making surveys, and he recalls driving one party of engineers from Delphos to Elida and Lima.

In 1853 Mr. Stallkamp embarked in a grocery and provision business on the bank of the canal, the greater part of the patronage coming from the boats which would stop and provision at his place as they passed up and down. This continued for two years and then Mr. Stallkamp went into partnership in the same line with Theodore Wrocklage under the firm name of T. Wrocklage & Company, which continued until the death of Mr. Wrocklage in 1890. Since that date the firm has been known in business circles as F. H. Stallkamp & Company. When Mr. Wrocklage entered the business, a line of queensware was added, and the firm soon had one of the finest grocery and queensware stores in Van Wert and Allen counties. Mr. Stallkamp also bought cattle and prepared them for shipment, supplying the up and down canal trade as mentioned. His first quarters were in the rear of a building right on the canal, and in those days it looked scarcely possible that from that beginning should grow the present important wholesale and retail house. By old traders on the canal Mr. Stallkamp is easily recalled, and the suc-

cess to which he attained was in great measure the result of his honest dealings and good management. In February, 1903, Mr. Stallkamp retired from the grocery and queensware business in favor of his sons who still carry it on, using the same honest methods and progressive ideas that have marked it from the beginning. Five of Mr. Stallkamp's sons are interested in the business.

In 1853 Mr. Stallkamp was united in marriage with Josephine Hedrick, who died in November, 1880, leaving eight sons and one daughter, viz.: Theodore J., Frank, Sylvester A., Otto W., Edward L., cashier of the Delphos National Bank; John H., deceased; Josephine M., Louis C., George H. and Fred.

Mr. Stallkamp has always been interested in the various enterprises which have promised to benefit Delphos, and has contributed liberally in support of public-spirited movements. For many years he was connected with the Ohio Wheel Company. In financial circles he stands high as vice-president and one of the largest stockholders of the Delphos National Bank. He is a consistent member of St. John's Catholic Church. He has never sought political honors.

THEODORE J. STALLKAMP, the eldest son of Francis H. and Josephine (Hedrick) Stallkamp, was born in the family home at Delphos, on the west side of the canal where his parents lived and his father carried on his business for so many years.

Mr. Stallkamp was given excellent educational opportunities, taking lessons in both English and German in the public and parochial schools. Since 1868, with the exception of one year during which he was clerk in a dry goods house, he has been associated with his father; first as assistant and later as partner. With his four brothers he now conducts the largest grocery and queensware business in

the county, and is the senior member of the Stallkamp Grocery & Queensware Company. The firm now occupies a fine two-story and basement brick building, with front of 39 by 72 feet and rear of 39 by 38 feet. The first story is devoted to groceries and the second to queensware. A complete stock of staple and fancy groceries of excellent quality is carried and can be supplied in any quantity.

Theodore J. Stallkamp is an excellent business man and possesses many of the traits of a father who was for years one of the most successful men in his line in this section. Since 1903 he has been a member of the City Council. For the past 18 years he has been connected with the Delphos fire department, entering as a volunteer, but now only holding honorary membership. He is also a member of the Catholic Knights of America.

Theodore J. Stallkamp married Isabel Stevenson and they have an interesting family of four children, viz.: Elizabeth, Alexander, Raymond and Florence. Mr. Stallkamp, like his venerable father, is a valued member of St. John's Catholic Church.



JAMES WEBSTER. Among the different lines of business successfully carried on at Van Wert, that of general insurance is looked after by capable and experienced men. Among these is James Webster of the insurance firm of James Webster & Son. He is a son of Nathaniel and Betsey (Abbott) Webster, and was born in Ash-tabula County, Ohio, January 1, 1832. The father and mother of Mr. Webster were natives of New Hampshire and Montreal, Canada, but their last years were spent in the State of Ohio. They reared seven children.

After completing his education in the com-



HON. AUGUSTUS L. SWEET

mon schools, James Webster came to Van Wert County in 1851, then a young man of 19 years, and embarked in a mercantile business in which he remained until 1853. He was then appointed deputy county auditor, to fill out the unexpired term of John Shaw and he served two years more under County Auditor Robinson. He was then elected auditor of Van Wert County and served in this responsible position for two terms, his administration of the affairs of this office reflecting credit upon his capacity and integrity.

Mr. Webster then embarked in the timber business, in partnership with L. H. Wise and for 15 years, or as long as the business continued to be profitable, the firm of Webster & Wise remained in the field. After disposing of his lumber interests, Mr. Webster then entered into general insurance and is now associated with his son, Robert. The firm of James Webster & Son represents some 22 companies, all of them being old-line substantial organizations.

On December 5, 1861, Mr. Webster married Mary H. Sweet, who after a happy wedded life of over 38 years died February 10, 1901, and lies buried in Woodland Cemetery. To them were born five children, as follows: Robert, Jennie, Lemuel K., deceased October 8, 1901; John M.; and James Ferdinand. All of the children reside in the beautiful family home at No. 809 South Washington street, except Jennie, the wife of Eugene R. Conn, of Van Wert, who lives in a home adjoining that of Mr. Webster. John M. and James Ferdinand Webster are the leading druggists of Van Wert; the former served two terms as deputy sheriff and was later elected sheriff, in which office he continued to serve for two more terms. Mr. Conn also has served as sheriff of Van Wert County; he is now in the insurance

business. He and Mrs. Conn have two sons—Donald W. and Robert E.

Politically the subject of the sketch is identified with the Republican party. Fraternally he is a Mason, being a charter member of Van Wert Chapter, No. 71, R. A. M. He is the only surviving charter member of this chapter which held its 50th anniversary on February 26, 1906, and has a present membership of 131.



ON. AUGUSTUS L. SWEET, judge of the Probate Court of Van Wert County, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, is one of the leading citizens of this county and one of the honored survivors of the Civil War. He was born in Ohio, October 17, 1842, and is a son of John and Lucy (White) Sweet. The father of Augustus L. Sweet was a carpenter by trade. He came to Van Wert County in 1852 and here reared his family of three children.

During his boyhood Augustus L. Sweet attended school and assisted his father on the home farm, but before he had reached his majority he was wearing the Union blue as a private in Company H, Fourth Reg., Ohio Vol. Cav., enlisting September 14, 1861. He was subsequently promoted and became quartermaster-sergeant. He served until his honorable discharge in July 15, 1865; during three months of this service he endured the horrors of the military prison at Salisbury, North Carolina.

Upon his return to Ohio, after peace was declared, the young soldier turned his attention to the study of the law and was admitted to the bar in 1880. He practiced his profession at Van Wert for the succeeding seven years, and was then elected by the Republican party

prosecuting attorney of Van Wert County, later city attorney of Van Wert, and on February 9, 1900, was elevated to his present position on the bench. Judge Sweet was re-elected in November, 1905, for a second term of six years on the probate bench, leading his ticket and having a plurality of over 500 votes. In his judicial administration he has as much honored the office as it has honored him, and his record is one to which he can refer with justifiable pride. His reputation is that of an incorruptible public official and a high-minded, public-spirited citizen. Further he is as much a patriot in times of peace as he was years ago, when he served at the front, and his duty to his fellow-citizens is as carefully performed as a member of the judiciary, as it was when soldiering in 1861.

Judge Sweet was united in marriage with Margaret V. Fugit, who is a daughter of I. Fugit, and they are the parents of the three following children, viz.: Forest H.; Edna H., who is the wife of A. R. Springer; and Goldie St. Clair, who is the wife of John Webber. The family belong to the Presbyterian Church. Judge Sweet is a very popular as well as able citizen of Van Wert, and he has numerous fraternal connections, belonging to these orders: Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Pythias, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Home Guards of America and W. C. Scott Post, G. A. R., at Van Wert.

RUDOLPH REUL, M. D., deceased, was for 30 years a well-known medical practitioner at Delphos. He came from Germany in 1848 and settled in Delphos, where he engaged in the practice of medicine. When Company F, 118th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., was organized, he was made

captain, and as such served throughout the Civil war. He passed away August 19, 1879, universally esteemed and loved.

Of his three sons, only the youngest, Walter W. Reul, of the Delphos Hardware Company, is living. The two elder sons, Carl and Rudolph, were sent to Germany, after passing through the common schools of Van Wert County, and there studied medicine in the University of Heidelberg. Returning to Delphos, they followed their profession in this vicinity, and were accounted among the city's most skillful and successful practitioners. Dr. Carl Reul was actively engaged in his work up to his death in June, 1895, but Dr. Rudolph Reul, Jr., who died in July, 1904, at the age of 48 years, was obliged to retire from practice some years before his death on account of ill health.



JASON L. MOSER, president of the Bank of Wren, at Wren, this county, is one of the most prominent business men of the southwestern section of Van Wert County and is prominently identified with nearly all of the most important industries and business combinations in the village. He also owns 103 acres of the old family homestead, which is situated in section 17, Willshire township. Mr. Moser was born in the township named on April 28, 1853, and is a son of David and Aseneth (Wolf) Moser.

The Moser family is of German extraction and is an old established one in Pennsylvania, where both our subject's father and grandfather were born. The latter, Joseph Moser, was a pioneer in Richland County, Ohio, and came thence to Van Wert County, in 1847, dying at the home of his son in 1876, aged 82 years.

David Moser, the father of Jason L., was

born in 1826 in Washington County, Pennsylvania, and died in Van Wert County in 1884, aged 58 years. He accompanied his parents to this section and assisted in establishing the pioneer home in the woods, and here he subsequently became a man of prominence and substance owning at one time 200 acres of land. He was the youngest in the family of three sons and two daughters, who all came to Van Wert County, with the exception of a son and daughter who remained in Richland County. Mr. Moser was a strong Republican, one of the leading abolitionists of his locality and a member of the United Brethren Church.

The mother of our subject, Aseneth Wolf, belonged to one of the old families of Richland County, which also migrated to Van Wert County. In 1861 she died of consumption, when but 33 years of age. She was the mother of five children, viz.: Jason L.; Joseph, of Pleasant Mills; Rachel (Teeple), of Geneva, Indiana; and Jonathan Lewis and John Newton (twins), the former of whom died aged three years, and the latter, aged 14 years. Mr. Moser married a second time and had five more children, all of whom survive.

Jason L. Moser remained with his parents on the farm until he was 27 years of age. His education had been pursued along liberal lines, including an attendance at the Ohio Normal University at Ada, after which he taught school for some 10 years in Van Wert County and in the State of Indiana. In 1883 Mr. Moser came to Wren and has the distinction of erecting the first building in the village—one which was utilized as a dwelling and store combined. Here he engaged in a general mercantile business for about eight years, under the firm name of J. L. Moser & Company. In 1890 he entered into partnership with W. B. Frysinger & Company, in the produce line, and for five years the partners conducted both a

mercantile and produce business. The latter is still continued under the old firm name, while Mr. Frysinger conducts their branch produce business at Rockford, Ohio.

As indicated above, Mr. Moser has numerous business interests. He is interested in the elevator business of Dudley & Company, at Wren, and in two elevators at Glenmore, with the firm of Garris, Dudley & Company. He also has an interest in the Decatur Produce Company, of Decatur, Indiana, of which his son is manager. Mr. Moser was one of the main organizers of the Bank of Wren, of which he is president, the institution beginning business in 1904, in a fine bank building erected for the purpose. He is also a stockholder in the local telephone company, of which he was one of the organizers. Further, he is a large property owner both in the country and in the village. Mr. Moser's handsome residence, built in 1887, was remodeled in 1902, and in 1905 he erected his present business building, which is constructed of cement block. He is a man of public spirit and liberal views, of excellent business perceptions and appreciative of all that goes to make a well-rounded life, being also fully alive to the benefits to be enjoyed in a well-organized community like the village of Wren, of which he is, in a way, the father. Politically Mr. Moser was reared in Republicanism. Although personally his many business interests have taken the place of political aspirations, he is ever ready to work in favor of friends and for good government. His fraternal connections include membership with the Odd Fellows and the Maccabees.

In 1882 Mr. Moser was married to Annis Teeple, who was born in Adams County, Indiana, and is a daughter of John Teeple. They have three children, viz.: John W., who is in the produce business at Decatur, Indiana; Maude M., who is the wife of C. C. Finkhouser,

cashier of the Bank of Wren; and Esty May, who is attending school. Mr. Moser and family belong to the United Brethren Church, in which for many years he was superintendent of the Sunday-school.

JOHN J. HUMPHREYS, one of Van Wert's representative business men, for many years a member of the wholesale grocery firm of Humphreys & Hughes and now the head of its successor—The Humphreys Grocery Company—was born November 25, 1847, in Allen County, Ohio, and is a son of Richard and Jane (Jones) Humphreys.

Richard Humphreys and his wife were both natives of Wales and came to America in 1845 a few years after their marriage. After living a few months at Pittsburg they settled permanently in Allen County, Ohio. Mr. Humphreys died in 1884, having lived the last five years of his life with his daughter Jane, Mrs. J. D. Evans, his wife having died in 1879. Five children were born to them, all of whom still survive except Margaret. The family record is as follows: Jane, wife of J. D. Evans, of Allen County, Ohio; Margaret, deceased; John J.; Catherine, widow of W. E. Watkins, residing at Columbus, Ohio; and Thomas A., who is a Congregational minister located at Scranton, Pennsylvania.

John J. Humphreys was given common-school advantages, which were supplemented by commercial and normal school courses. Prior to taking up a mercantile life he engaged in teaching for several years. In 1874, in partnership with Mr. Dunathan, he engaged in the grocery business at Van Wert. Mr. Humphreys has ever since continued in the grocery

business having been associated with various partners, the firm name changing from Dunathan & Humphreys to Dunathan, Humphreys & Holbrook, to Dunathan & Humphreys again, then to Humphreys & Hughes, and finally to The Humphreys Grocery Company, which was incorporated in 1901 and of which Mr. Humphreys is the president and principal owner. In 1886 the firm commenced to give its entire attention to the wholesale trade, having previously carried on a business both wholesale and retail. The business has shown a steady increase from its inception and has now become one of the largest institutions of its kind in Ohio. The handsome business block on the corner of East Main and South Market streets, Van Wert, built to accommodate the firm's requirements, was long the finest business structure in the city.

On February 11, 1899, the firm of Humphreys & Hughes met with a severe loss in the destruction of their entire immense establishment by fire. They immediately rebuilt and in September of the same year the business was established in their new building.

Mr. Humphreys was married in Van Wert County, Ohio, November 29, 1874, to Florence E. McCoy, who was born November 30, 1854, in Van Wert County, a daughter of Moses H. McCoy, a leading citizen and one of the oldest settlers of the county. Seven children have been born to them, viz.: Eugene C.; Wilber R.; Agnes L., who died in 1902, aged 21 years; Edna and Ethel (twins); and Helen L. and Harold L. (twins). Eugene C., who is a graduate of the Van Wert High School and also of the Spencerian Commercial College of Cleveland, Ohio, is head bookkeeper for The Humphreys Grocery Company. He has established quite a reputation as a local singer and has been called to neighboring cities to assist in con-



JAMES B. SMITH

ducting musical entertainments. Wilber R., also a graduate of the Van Wert High School, attended the University of Wooster and later graduated from Harvard University. He is now associate professor in the University of Oklahoma. Edna and Ethel, both graduates of the Van Wert High School, are attending college at the National Park Seminary, located in the suburbs of Washington, D. C. Helen L. and Harold L. are attending the Van Wert public schools.

JAMES B. SMITH, one of Van Wert's leading citizens, formerly mayor and for years identified with its business, social and political affairs, was born at St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, July 15, 1838, and is a son of John and Ellen (McDermott) Smith. His parents, who were natives of Ireland, both came to America in 1832 and were married the following year at Buffalo, New York. Of their five children, the two survivors are James B., of Van Wert, Ohio, and George C., of Kalamazoo, Michigan. As a cooper, the father worked at different points prior to 1850, when he located at Jackson, Michigan, where he died 10 years later; the mother died at Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1892.

James B. Smith, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, attended school wherever his father's business interests led the family, acquiring so thorough an education that for a time he followed teaching as a profession. Finally, however, he learned his father's business, and after his marriage, in 1861, settled near Eaton Rapids, Michigan, moving in the succeeding year to Kalamazoo, where he worked as a cooper until 1865. He continued to be

thus employed in Plainwell, Michigan, until 1868, and then removed to Wayland, that state. For a couple of years he engaged in the hotel business there; in 1871 became superintendent of the cooperage plant of Jaynes & Company, at St. Louis, Missouri; and located at Van Wert in 1883. Until the fall of 1887 he was connected with the extensive business of George H. Marsh, of this city, but in that year organized the Leeson Cooperage Company, of which he has been secretary and manager.

Mr. Smith is now practically retired from business activity, but is still an important factor in the public life of Van Wert. He has always been affiliated with the Democratic party, and for years has been in close touch with its leaders in this section. In 1899 he was elected mayor of Van Wert and served one term to the complete satisfaction of his fellow-citizens.

On September 21, 1861, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Eunice Whitcomb, who was born in Eaton County, Michigan, and is a daughter of Luther and Louisa (Pierson) Whitcomb, natives of New England. They have two sons, viz.: Byron J., who is engaged in the electrical business at Van Wert, and Burton L., who is connected with the *Times-Democrat*, the leading newspaper of Van Wert County. Mr. Smith and family occupy one of the pleasantest homes in this prosperous little city, situated at No. 503 North Market street.

Mr. Smith was one of the organizers, with Dr. G. J. Eblen and J. W. Evans, of the fraternal society known as the Home Guards of America, and he holds the office of supreme treasurer in this organization, which, in its few years of existence has gained thousands of members. His fraternal relations with the Masons and the Elks are also active.

ABRAM BROWN GLEASON, president of the First National Bank of Van Wert, was born in this county, April 10, 1840, and is a son of Joseph Gleason, one of the best known early residents of Van Wert County. Mr. Gleason's educational opportunities were those afforded by the schools of Pleasant township. When but 15 years of age he was employed in a saw-mill and grist-mill, and by the time he was 21 years of age was promoted to the position of head sawyer and general manager, continuing with the same company until 1866. In that year he entered the milling business himself, in partnership with his brother, Frank J., taking advantage of the opportunity to purchase the milling property and water rights of the plant where he had been so long engaged. In 1893 Mr. Gleason admitted into partnership, his son Earl and F. H. Carper, and with this addition of capital and energy the firm of the Gleason Lumber Company was formed, which eventually conducted one of the largest industries of its kind in the county.

As early as 1868 Mr. Gleason also displayed foresight and business ability in the purchase of large tracts of farming lands in this county, and now owns some 500 acres of well-improved realty. As a growing capitalist, he became a stockholder in the Van Wert County Bank, in 1869, and since March, 1883, has been president of the First National Bank of Van Wert. Other important and successful enterprises in which he is more or less interested have been: The Ohio Land & Livestock Company; the Van Wert Natural Gas Company; the Eagle Stave Company; Van Wert's first building and loan association, and others—each organization finding in him a man of sound business judgment and commercial probity. In the matter of public improvements and civic expansion, his fellow-citizens have found

him more than ready to meet them half way.

Politically Mr. Gleason is a Democrat, but his private interests are so large that he finds little time to devote to the duties of official life. In 1869 and 1871 he served as sheriff of Van Wert County, performing his duties with the same completeness, which marks the management of his private affairs.

Abraham B. Gleason was married at Van Wert, on February 6, 1862, to Lucretia J. Fox, who died April 1, 1867. She is survived by two children, viz.: Lofnis Earl, who is associated with his father in the Gleason Lumber Company, and Mittie E., the wife of Dr. W. T. Chambers, of Denver, Colorado.


JOHN HOFFMANN, a well-to-do farmer and large land owner of Liberty township, resides on a fine farm situated in section 18. He was born in Marion County, Ohio, December 4, 1846, and is a son of Peter and Christina (Gearheiser) Hoffmann. Peter Hoffmann was born and raised in Germany and came to America in 1833, settling on an 83-acre tract of land in Marion County, Ohio, where he died May 3, 1895.

John Hoffmann was reared and educated in Marion County and remained there until he became of age. In 1870 he moved to Liberty township, Van Wert County, Ohio, and bought a farm of 66 acres which he farmed for three years before his marriage.

In 1873 he married Mary Riedel, a daughter of Andrus and Magdalena Riedel, who came from Germany and first settled in Marion County, Ohio, later removing to Van Wert County. Mr. Riedel died in the fall of 1872; his wife died in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Hoff-

mann have reared seven children, all of whom are living, namely: Elizabeth Magdalena, who married Peter Schaadt and has three children—they live on the old homestead first settled by Mrs. Schaadt's father; Peter, who married Ona Robertson and has three children—they live in Liberty township; John A., who married Mary Haverman, lives in Liberty township and has one child; Philip; Minnie, who married Christ Voltz, of Lima, Ohio; Henry; and Annie, who married Chester Chilcoat, of Liberty township.

Mr. Hoffmann is the owner of 294½ acres of fine productive farm land in Liberty township and 83½ acres in Marion County, Ohio. He is a man of energy and enterprise and takes a very decided interest in public matters. He takes the part of a good citizen in promoting the welfare of the community. He served one year as trustee of Liberty township.

ERDINAND BREDEICK, the founder of the city of Delphos, was born at Verl, Prussia, Germany, in 1808. After a useful life, he passed away, February 17, 1846, far from his native land, in a community which he had founded and a section which his energy had assisted in developing.

It was through the religious zeal of his oldest brother, the late Rev. John Otto Bredeick, whose name is held in loving memory at Delphos, that Ferdinand Bredeick crossed the Atlantic and subsequently settled in Ohio. Possessed of learning and large means, the older brother was also a devoted priest of the Catholic Church and it was his desire to use his fortune in the teaching of the poor the tenets of his religious faith and in offering the comforts of the holy church. Having decided that

America offered a wider field of usefulness, he proposed to his younger brother that he should be the pioneer, go to America and search out a location where the desire of his heart could be carried out.

Hence it was that in 1841 a party consisting of Ferdinand Bredeick, his wife and their two children, with Theodore Wrocklage, his brother-in-law, located on the Auglaize River, in Putnam County, Ohio, awaiting the decision of the engineers as to which of three routes should be selected for the building of a proposed canal. It is probable that Ferdinand came to Ohio about 1833 and that eight years had elapsed before he was able to select a site approved by his brother. He visited many sections, riding on horseback all over Missouri and other States, finding at last a situation where cheap land could be procured and where proposed public improvements would enhance its value and would also bring an influx of people whose spiritual wants could be ministered to. While the final decisions were made which resulted in the selection of the present route of the Miami and Erie Canal, which bisects the city of Delphos, one-half being in Van Wert County and one-half in Allen, Mr. Bredeick and family lived in Putnam County, Ohio—eight years at Glandorf and one year at Fort Jennings. They came to the present site of Delphos in 1842, before the canal was built.

Ferdinand Bredeick first bought 80 acres on what is now the Van Wert County side of the canal, a part of this original purchase being now owned by his daughter, Mrs. Henry J. Moennig. He also purchased 80 acres on the Allen County side of the canal, and an additional 80 acres for his brother, Father John Otto Bredeick. This land is the site of Delphos, busy Main street passing through it and the Catholic church, cemetery and school of St. John the Evangelist standing upon it. In

another part of this work will be found extended mention of the pious zeal as well as the remarkable enterprise of Father Bredeick. He gave himself and all he possessed to the church. He founded St. John's, finding congenial surroundings in extending spiritual help to the army of workmen who came during the construction of the canal, many of whom remained to make their homes here upon its completion, and to the settlers who came in the wake of the installation of convenient transportation facilities. Father Bredeick, who was born January 22, 1789, was the first priest of the church, serving without remuneration from 1844 until his death, which occurred August 19, 1858. Rev. Aloysius I. Hoeffel is now the officiating priest of this early-founded church.

Ferdinand Bredeick was married at Glandorf, Putnam County, Ohio, in February, 1836 to Mary Elizabeth Wrocklage, who was born August 20, 1819, in Germany and came to America with her brother, Theodore Wrocklage, when she was 17 years of age. Subsequently, in 1845, her parents came to America. Her father, Christian Mathias Wrocklage, was born in Germany, February 2, 1789, and died at Delphos, Ohio, April 9, 1846; his wife, whose maiden name was Mary Elizabeth Gerdeman, was born in Germany and died at Delphos, Ohio, October 2, 1846, aged 45 years. The children of Ferdinand and Mary Elizabeth (Wrocklage) Bredeick were: Elizabeth, who died in infancy at Glandorf, Putnam County, Ohio; Bernadina, widow of the late Henry J. Moennig, of Washington township, Van Wert County, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Mary Victoria, born December 23, 1841, and deceased August 15, 1886, who was the wife of Charles E. Schenck; Amelia J., the first white child born at Delphos, who married George F. Lang, now deceased, and still resides at Delphos; and Ferdinand,

born October 19, 1846, and deceased September 16, 1848. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Bredeick remained a widow five years and then married Joseph Ostendorf. Her death took place August 27, 1887.



ENRY J. MOENNIG, whose death occurred at Delphos, Ohio, October 17, 1897, was one of the leading men of the city during the active years of his business life. He was born January 15, 1830, at Bohmte, Hanover, Germany. In 1843 he came to the United States with his parents, the party also including his grandfather, his two brothers and his two sisters. From New Orleans where they landed in November, the party proceeded to Cincinnati, Ohio, in the same month, and there remained three months, finally moving to Delphos, locating here March 2, 1844. The trip was made by the canal from Cincinnati to Piqua and then by wagon. At that time Delphos was known as Section Ten.


Henry J. Moennig assisted his father in clearing the latter's land, which now is embraced in the northeastern part of Delphos and lies in Allen County. Entering commercial life he was employed as clerk by the firm of Esch & Wrocklage, taking up his duties on July 5, 1847. He remained with this firm until October, 1852, when he engaged in general merchandising with Joseph Ostendorf, the firm being known as Ostendorf & Moennig. He was thus engaged in mercantile business from 1852 to 1862. In October of the latter year he engaged in a general merchandise business on the southeast corner of Main and Second streets under the firm name of Moennig & Wulforst. In 1866 he erected the building on the corner of Main and Second streets, which is now owned by Aaron Fisher, and founded

a hardware and agricultural implement business, which he conducted under the name of H. J. Moennig & Company until 1887 when he closed out the hardware line, thereafter continuing the implement business until 1893. In 1875 he erected the building now occupied by the National Bank of Delphos. Mr. Moennig was prominent in the civil affairs of Washington township and of the county of Van Wert. On April 1, 1867, he was elected treasurer of Washington township, which office he held for four years. He also served as a member of the City Council from 1868 to 1870 and from 1890 to 1894. On April 1, 1895, he was elected clerk of Washington township to fill a vacancy and on April 6, 1896, he was reelected for a full term.

On August 6, 1857, Mr. Moennig was married to Mary Bernadina Bredeick, the ceremony being performed by Rev. John Otto Bredeick, her uncle. Mrs. Moennig was born at Glandorf, Putnam County, June 16, 1839, and is a daughter of Ferdinand and Mary Elizabeth (Wrocklage) Bredeick, her father being the founder of Section Ten, now known as Delphos. Mrs. Moennig is the only survivor of the original party that settled at Delphos, being four years old at that time. An account of the founding of Delphos will be found in the sketch of her father, Ferdinand Bredeick, which appears elsewhere in this work and also in the history of Delphos, forming an important feature of this work. Mrs. Moennig was reared at Delphos and can recall much of its early history. She attended the early schools and completed her education at the Convent of Notre Dame at Dayton, Ohio. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Moennig, as follows: Ferdinand H. C., born January 17, 1859, who married Ada Pierce, of Indiana, and died at Chicago, Illinois, January 17, 1902, leaving no children; Elizabeth B., born October 29,

1863, who resides at home with her mother; Mary W., born April 15, 1866, who died on the 17th of the following November; Henry J., born January 6, 1869, who died July 17, 1892, at Cleveland, Ohio; being then 23 years and six months old; Agnes T., born March 31, 1872, who resides with her mother; Margaret M., born August 24, 1874, who died on the day of her birth; Otto William, born May 13, 1876, who resides at home; and George H., born August 28, 1878, who died on the day of his birth.

Mr. Moennig was a member of the council and treasurer of the Church of St. John the Evangelist at Delphos, and a member of the Lima branch of the Catholic Knights of America.

 LOUIS J. BARNETT, one of the substantial farmers of Jennings township, who resides on his fine farm of 140 acres in section 16, is a survivor of the Civil War in which he was a brave soldier from 1861 until 1865. Mr. Barnett was born in Germany in 1843, and is a son and the only surviving child of Peter and Susan (Haslack) Barnett.

The father of Mr. Barnett died in Germany. His mother married as her second husband a German by the name of John Long, who was a cooper by trade. In 1846 the family came to America, settling first in Auglaize County, Ohio, but later moving to Deep Cut, Allen County. Our subject learned the trade of cooper with his step-father and then worked at the same for three years as a journeyman.

In 1861 Mr. Barnett entered the Union Army, enlisting on October 16th in Company F, 64th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf. He served faithfully until he was mustered out in Texas, in December, 1865, after having participated in


all the battles in which his regiment was engaged. He survived all the dangers of a soldier's life and has a record for bravery of which his children may be very proud.

In 1872 Mr. Barnett came to Van Wert County and settled on 80 acres of his present farm, 15 acres of which had been cleared. The place had only been improved by the erection of a log cabin and stable; every other improvement, including an expensive system of ditching, has been put in by Mr. Barnett. When he first came here he found plenty of wild turkeys and an occasional deer. His nearest mill point was Spencerville, which was almost impossible to reach when the locks of the canal were disabled. He experienced his share of pioneer hardships; through persevering industry he overcame them and not only cleared the 80 acres of his original farm but also an additional 20, making his farm one of 100 acres, which is all neatly fenced, with rails split by himself.

Mr. Barnett was married on February 27, 1866, in Willshire township, to Malissa Walters, who was born in Richland County, Ohio, and in childhood accompanied her parents to Van Wert County. The children of this marriage were nine in number. The survivors are the following: John, now operating the home farm in Jennings township and living west of Monticello, who married Myrtle Ferrell; Julia, wife of Alva Cooper, of Auglaize County; Sherman, of Jennings township, who married Stella Miller; Sylvester, who married Cora Decker and lives on a farm opposite his father's; Edward, who married Bridget Rupert and lives in Mercer County; Milta, who married George Snyder and lives in section 18, Jennings township, west of Monticello; and Virgil, who married Blanche De Vose and lives at Monticello. Mr. Barnett is very proud of his 21 grandchildren and they are, indeed, a fine

lot of young Americans, intelligent, industrious and respected.

Mr. Barnett is one of the old members of the United Brethren Church at Monticello and belonged when the services were held in a log cabin in this vicinity. The first gathering was in 1874. He has been a liberal supporter and was chairman of the building committee when the Monticello church was built. He has served two terms as township trustee and is superintendent of the Monticello turnpike.

 ASPER DUDLEY, one of the prominent citizens of Wren, in Willshire township, formerly mayor of the village and incumbent of other offices, is interested in a large elevator business at this point and handles flour, coal, salt and cement. Mr. Dudley was born near Caldwell, Noble County, Ohio, on November 17, 1855, and is a son of James and Sarah (Walter) Dudley.

Judge Gilmore Dudley, the founder of the Dudley family in Noble County and the grandfather of our subject, was born in Maine and in young manhood came to the county named. He was a man of fine education and excellent parts, serving for 25 years as a justice of the peace and subsequently as probate judge. He lived to be 80 years of age. Except one, all of his children—three sons and four daughters—became school teachers. One son, Win, became a captain in the Union Army during the Civil war (taking out a company from Noble County) and afterward became a member of the legal profession.

James Dudley, father of Jasper, was born in Noble County, December 5, 1822, and died there October 20, 1877. By trade he was a carpenter, following that avocation during the



SAMUEL COLLINS



summer seasons and during the winters teaching school, in Noble County and later in Van Wert County. He was a skillful workman and erected the first house in Caldwell, Noble County, as well as the Court House there. In 1864 he came to Wren and soon settled on a farm in Harrison township, three miles north of the village, working at first in the timber, but later teaching and engaging in carpenter work. He married Sarah Walter, who was born in Noble County, April 28, 1833, and now resides on the old homestead in Harrison township. Mrs. James Dudley is a daughter of George and Mary (Brownrig) Walter, natives of England, and the mother of nine children as follows: Flora (Hart), deceased; Mary (Zimmerman), deceased; Jasper, of this sketch; Win, of Harrison township; Eva, who died at two years of age; Lepha (Erwin), of Michigan; Martha (Cowan), of Decatur, Indiana; James H., residing on the farm with his mother; and Elizabeth (Dull), of Malinta, Henry County, Ohio.

Jasper Dudley continued to reside on the home farm until 1875, and then for a year lived in Monroeville, Indiana. Subsequently he returned to the farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until some nine years ago. In 1897, he located at Wren, and for about four years engaged in the grocery line, in partnership, with Peter Herl, under the firm style of Herl & Dudl  y. In the elevator business he is associated with J. L. and Nelson Moser, W. B. Frysinger and Fred Gehres, under the firm name of Dudley & Company, a strong organization formed in 1901.

On November 17, 1878, Mr. Dudley was married (first) to Katherine Pomeroy, who was born in Harrison township, Van Wert County, Ohio, September 9, 1862, and died April 20, 1887. She was a daughter of Frank and Phoebe (Balyeat) Pomeroy. They had

two children—Eva T., now deceased, and Floyd, a resident of Delphos. On March 9, 1892, Mr. Dudley was married (second) to Martha Heurless, who was born in Harrison township, Van Wert County, Ohio, October 2, 1862, and is a daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Heurless. They have one daughter—Ruth.

Mr. Dudley has been a lifelong Democrat, and on many occasions his fellow-citizens have called him to positions of honor and responsibility. For four years he served as clerk of Harrison township, was mayor of Wren for one term, and for four years was clerk of the village. He is a very important factor in the business, political and social circles of Wren.



AMUEL COLLINS, a retired farmer residing in Van Wert, whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, is a gentleman whom it is a pleasure to present to the reader as a representative of the highest type of American citizenship and one whose example it would be wise to take as a guide. The very obstacles which beset his path were made to serve as stepping-stones by which to reach the desired end of an honored, prosperous and a happy old age. Mr. Collins was born in Hocking County, Ohio, near the Ross County line, on October 2, 1822, his parents being Samuel and Sarah (Davis) Collins, the former a native of New York and the latter, of Hocking County, Ohio. The father came to Hocking County when a young man and remained there for the remainder of his life. He was twice married, his first wife preceding him to the grave many years and leaving five children—Eli, Nancy, Joseph, Samuel and Sarah—of whom our subject is the only survivor. Mr. Collins had two children by his second marriage, who, with the widow, sur-

vived him when he passed away at the age of 75 years.

Samuel Collins spent about 8 years of his earlier life at work in a grist-mill. He then engaged in agriculture, and in 1851 came to Van Wert County and purchased a tract of 388 acres about three miles south of Van Wert. He raised considerable stock in connection with his farming, thus continually building up his land and adding to its value until it is one of the most fertile in the county. About two years ago he sold all but 160 acres, the cultivation of which he takes great pleasure in overseeing. In 1885 he decided to move to the city and take life in a more leisurely manner, and, with his usual judgment, chose the best street in Van Wert on which to purchase a home. The residence is a comfortable brick structure, whose quiet elegance is in harmony with the unassuming habits of its owner.

In 1846 Mr. Collins was married to Elizabeth Featherolf, a native of Hocking County and a daughter of Benjamin and Hannah (Fish) Featherolf. She was born in 1826 and died in her 60th year. Of their family, three children died in infancy and five are living, namely: Lewis, of Topeka, Kansas; Martin, who resides in St. Paul, Minnesota; Mary Jane, wife of Edward B. Gilliland of Van Wert; Peter, who lives on a farm in Ridge township; and Hannah, who is her father's housekeeper. Mr. Collins had been a Democrat until some 12 years ago, when he joined forces with the Prohibitionists and he has since given his support to that party.



REV. JOSEPH J. BEUCLER, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church, at Van Wert, is one of the well-known and very highly esteemed clergymen of this city. Father Beucler was born at

Louisville, Ohio, December 23, 1863, and is one of a family of nine children born to his parents, Dr. Joseph S. and Mary (Girard) Beucler.

Father Beucler is a man of scholarly attainments. He is a graduate of St. John's University, Minnesota, and was ordained to the priesthood on December 18, 1892, at St. Cloud, Minnesota, by Rt. Rev. Otto Zardetti, D. D.

After his ordination Father Beucler was stationed in the Diocese of Nashville, Tennessee, where he ministered to spiritual needs at various places for 10 years. On October 3, 1903, he was transferred to Van Wert, becoming pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church, as the successor of Rev. P. J. Quinn. Father Beucler has some 35 families in his parish and he is much beloved by his congregation. Since taking charge at St. Mary's, he has shown both religious zeal and executive ability. The parish is in a very flourishing condition, but numerous improvements are in view, a most cordial feeling existing between the head of the church and its people.



PERRY R. KREIDER, one of the representative citizens and substantial farmers of Pleasant township, and the owner of a fine farm of 80 acres in section 28, was born in Ashland County, Ohio, February 12, 1855, and is a son of John R. and Sarah (Hersh) Kreider.

The parents of Mr. Kreider were born in Pennsylvania and removed to Ohio early in the '50's, residing in Ashland County for some 10 years and then removing to Pleasant township, Van Wert County, where the mother still survives. The father died in July, 1882. John R. Kreider was a man of high standing in the township, honest and upright in all his deal-

ings; of the children born to him and his wife, the survivors are: Joseph M.; Naomi, wife of J. M. Baker; Jerry R., of this sketch; Mrs. John Gearheiser; John F.; Howard V.; F. P., a physician of Van Wert; and Clara, wife of Harry Hogue.

Jerry R. Kreider was reared on his father's farm and there learned all the details of an agricultural life, which have been used to his advantage, as is demonstrated by his well-cultivated and productive land. He came to his present farm in 1889, when it was still covered and surrounded by dense woods. From such unpromising conditions Mr. Kreider developed a valuable farm, which is well stocked with cattle, hogs, and improved machinery.

Mr. Kreider was married January 25, 1876, to Mary E. Johns, who was born April 9, 1860, in Pleasant township, Van Wert County, and is a daughter of Jacob W. and Eliza (Huston) Johns, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Johns came to Van Wert County in 1840, settling first in Harrison township and then in Pleasant township, where Mr. Johns died about 1865. His widow survives and resides with a daughter in Andrews, Indiana. The surviving children of Jacob W. Johns and wife are: Dallas W., of Willshire township; Margaret N., of Tyndall, South Dakota; Sarah L. (Mrs. R. J. Wybourn), of Andrews, Indiana; Ira W., of Pleasant township; Clara D. (Mrs. Levin Kiehm), of Oregon; and Mary E., wife of our subject. The children of Jerry R. Kreider and wife are Orlando H., Ella M., John F., Andrew C., Jerry C., Marion F. and Lucy E.

Like his father, Mr. Kreider is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and is now serving as one of the township trustees. He takes a deep interest in educational matters and does all in his power to increase the scope and usefulness of the public schools.



MOSES THOMAS GERMANN, one of the representative young farmers of Washington township, where he owns 276 acres of fine farming land, was born February 22, 1884, and is a son of Moses I. and Mary I. (Payne) Germann.

While the Germann family originated in Germany, it has been long established in Ohio, and has many connections throughout the State. Moses Germann, the great-grandfather of our subject, took up a farm of 160 acres of Government land in Muskingum County, Ohio, but later removed to Licking County, where he died in 1856. The grandparents of our subject were Thomas and Mary (Hanley) Germann, who were married in Muskingum County. The grandfather died in 1877 and the grandmother in 1884. Their children were: William, of Missouri; David of Kentucky; Margaret Hannah, deceased in 1890, who was the wife of Sampson Kohn; Moses I., the father of our subject; and Emma (Mrs. Theodore Fraser), of Logan County, Ohio, who died April 1, 1897.

Moses I. Germann, father of our subject, remained at home and secured his education in the district schools. At the age of 16 years he went to Paulding County, where, in 1862, he enlisted for service in the Civil War, entering Company I, 100th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., as a private. His regiment saw considerable service and Mr. Germann participated in all its campaigns until the battle of Cumberland Gap, on February 22, 1864, when he was captured by the Confederates. He was compelled to remain in captivity until the following May, when he was released from prison after taking oath of allegiance to the Confederate government and donning a suit of Confederate gray. He watched his chance and soon after escaped to the Union lines.

In 1862, about the time of his enlistment, Mr. Germann was married to Mary I. Payne, who was a daughter of George and Irene Payne. To them were born 10 children, eight of whom are now living, as follows: Rhoda Ellen, born in 1866, who married Jacob Huston, of Hocking County, Ohio, now residing at Portland, Indiana, and has two children—Doyt and Dora; Irene, born in 1868, who married George Reed, of Van Wert County, Ohio, and has five children—Nellie Cloyd, James, Myrtle and Harold; Myrtle, born in 1870, who has been twice married—first to Joseph Hay, and second to John Mowen, of Lima, Ohio; Clara, born in 1872, who married William Himmelright, lives in Chicago and has one child—Grace; Minnie, born in 1874, who married Abraham Piper, resides in the State of Washington and has two children—Paul and John; Grace, born in 1876, who married Mack Dickson and lives at Springfield, Ohio; Pearl, born in 1880, who married Henry Flick, of Delphos, Ohio, and has one child—Joseph; and Moses Thomas, the subject of this sketch. George Gilmore, the eldest of Mr. Germann's children, was born in 1864 and died at the age of two years. Another child died in infancy. For the past 18 years Moses I. Germann has been a large dealer in real estate and engaged in other business enterprises at Delphos. He is one of the county's substantial men.

Moses Thomas Germann was reared at home and was afforded excellent educational advantages. He was trained to practical farming and on his large property, which was the generous gift of his father, he carries on extensive operations along modern lines.

On November 3, 1904, Mr. Germann married Rosella Metzger. They have a very comfortable, modern home. In religious views they are Catholics, being communicants of the Church of St. John the Evangelist at Delphos.

JOHN W. EVANS, Supreme Secretary of the Home Guards of America, a fraternal insurance society, of Van Wert, is one of the most worthy and enterprising men of this pleasant little city. He was born among the mines in Jackson County, Ohio, May 21, 1847, son of William and Jane Evans, natives of Aberystwyth, Wales, who early came to America. His father was manager of the Cambria furnace in Jackson County, Ohio, and was killed while overseeing the loading of a huge stone; the rope broke and the lever struck him on the head, which injury proved fatal. His son, the subject of this sketch, was then but seven years of age.

John W. Evans had received most of his education by the time he reached his 12th year, attending but three terms afterward, as at that age he was engaged in hauling ore, iron, coal, etc., at the mines and furnaces. When 16 years of age he started out for himself, with the lucky number \$13, and this sum he was compelled to use for necessary clothing and traveling expenses to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he arrived without a dollar. However, he secured work at once on the gunboats, which were being built at that place, and here by industry and application soon commanded the confidence of his employers and the highest praise for his labor. He first came to Van Wert County, Ohio, in the fall of 1863, and attended the district school that winter in York township. The next summer he attended school at Ewington, Gallia County, Ohio, and at Lebanon, Warren County, Ohio, when he again came to Van Wert County, and taught school during the winters and worked on the farm in the summer. In the fall of 1867 Mr. Evans was married, and then engaged in farming and teaching for seven years. In 1874 he became a partner in the drug and book firm of Eysenbach &

Company at Delphos, Ohio, in which business he continued two years, when Mr. Eysenbach retired and the firm became Evans & Evans (J. W. Evans and Hugh W. Evans). Early in 1883 another change occurred, when Hugh W. Evans sold his interest to Dr. C. C. Bliss, and the firm became Evans & Bliss, so remaining until 1890, when Mr. Evans sold his interest to his partner, Dr. C. C. Bliss. In 1888 Mr. Evans moved to Van Wert, where he engaged in the grocery business for one year and then founded the Central Drug Store, which he continued to operate until 1896. He owns some very valuable land in Van Wert County, consisting of several farms and city property. Since the above date he has been more or less engaged in superintending his agricultural concerns. In 1899 he assisted his brother-in-law, Dr. G. J. Eblen, a prominent physician and surgeon of Van Wert (a sketch of whom will be found in this volume), in organizing the Home Guards of America, the membership of which now reaches into the thousands. In August, 1904, he was elected to his second term of four years as Supreme Secretary of this fraternal order.

Mr. Evans was married (first) to Elizabeth Evans, who died in 1891, leaving two sons and one daughter—Richard J., John H. V. and Viola A. His second marriage was to Louise F. Niles, who is one of the three surviving daughters of the late venerable Barnabas Niles, whose death occurred at Van Wert, on September 19, 1905, at the age of 98 years. The grandfather of Mrs. Evans, also Barnabas Niles, came from Haverhill, New Hampshire, where the family was established in colonial times, and in 1806 settled in Cincinnati, Ohio. He became the possessor of a large body of land which is now included in that city, where the family has been prominent for the last 100 years. Mr. and Mrs. Evans have one daughter—

Carrie Altruria—and their handsome family residence is situated at No. 402 South Washington street, Van Wert. Both Mr. and Mrs. Evans are members of the First Presbyterian Church.

Politically, Mr. Evans is affiliated with the Republican party. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masons, Odd Fellows, Tribe of Ben Hur, National Union, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, Royal Arcanum and the Home Guards of America.



OMER S. AINSWORTH, D. D. S., the leading dentist of Van Wert, as well as of Van Wert County, was born in this county September 11, 1858, and is a son of William S. and Caroline (Miller) (Vance) Ainsworth.

William S. Ainsworth was a merchant of Willshire during the early days of that village and also carried on farming. When the county seat was moved to Van Wert, he was sheriff of the county. He married Mrs. Caroline (Miller) Vance, widow of Elias Vance and the mother of four children by her first marriage. One son, Homer S., was born to her union with Mr. Ainsworth.

Homer S. Ainsworth was born at his present home in Van Wert, where he attended the public schools. He then entered upon the study of his profession and received his degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery at the Indianapolis Dental College on the 5th of March, 1884. He at once opened a dental office in Van Wert and has been busily engaged in his work here ever since. By careful and conscientious work, he succeeded in building up a fine practice which has grown to such proportions that he now employs an assistant. His office, located at 101½ East Main street, is a

model of convenience and tastefully equipped and furnished. He resides at No. 1221 East Ridge road.

Dr. Ainsworth is a member of the Van Wert County Humane Society, president of the Odontological Society of Van Wert County and member of the Ohio State Dental Association. Since January, 1902, he has served as humane officer of the city of Van Wert. In politics he is independent.

JOHAN G. BAKER, who is one of the leading citizens of Hoaglin township, this county, was born in Knox County, Ohio, April 15, 1859, being the eldest son of Simeon and Josephine (Tissern) Baker. The father was born June 9, 1830, in Holmes County, Ohio, and the mother at Paris, France. In 1860 the family removed from Knox County to Hoaglin township, Van Wert County.

Simeon Baker, the father, was for many years a leading man in this township and served at one time as township trustee. In the fall of 1901 he moved to Michigan, and now resides in Kalkaska County, that State. It was during his residence in Van Wert County that Simeon Baker joined the military service as a supporter of the Union cause, being drafted October 24, 1864, into Company F, 41st Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., Second Brigade, Third Division, Fourth Army Corps. He was mustered out in June, 1865, and during his eight months of service participated in the battles at Columbia, Franklin and Nashville, all in Tennessee. At the Nashville engagement he was wounded in the left knee and head, but as his waist belt was also shot away he felt, even with these injuries, that he had had a narrow escape. Although Mr. Baker has reached an advanced

age, his wounds have caused him much trouble, especially during recent years. In politics Simeon Baker is a Democrat. The surviving children of Mr. Baker by his first marriage are: John G.; James K. and Nora E. (wife of William Sattler), both residents of Michigan; William M., of Shelby County, Ohio; Alma, widow of the late Charles Murphy, who resides in Van Wert; Frank E., of Kalkaska County, Michigan; Harry, of Benzie County, Michigan; and Cora E., wife of David Davis, of Sidney, Ohio. Mrs. Baker died July 7, 1880.

On February 7, 1889, John G. Baker, immediate subject of this sketch, was married to Elizabeth J. Sattler, who was born June 29, 1868, and is a daughter of Joseph and Mary A. (Kotterman) Sattler. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have four children, viz.: Joseph V., Mary R., Dennis A. and Jesse L. Politically Mr. Baker is a Republican. He is one of the representative men of the township and has filled various local offices, serving as road supervisor to the satisfaction of all concerned. The family is one of social prominence, and its members are generally respected where best known.

JOSEPH SATTLER, a veteran of the Civil War, and a well-known, venerable citizen of Hoaglin township, residing in section 10, owns 189 acres of land in Hoaglin and 40 acres in Union township, Van Wert County. Mr. Sattler was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, February 28, 1827, and is a son of Joseph and Rosanna Sattler. His parents were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, emigrating to America in 1817, and first locating near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Thence they removed to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, buying land in Sandy



FRANKLIN CARLO



MRS. MARY H. CARLO

township, where the mother died. Later the father passed away in Shelby County, Ohio.

Joseph Sattler was in his 16th year when his mother died, but the family continued to live in Tuscarawas County for many years. The boy received his education in one of the pioneer schoolhouses—constructed of logs, with rough, slab benches. The instruction there given was of an elementary character, but from those humble little log cabins have emerged pupils, equipped with useful knowledge, who have attained distinction in various callings.

Mr. Sattler had become a resident of Shelby County prior to his enlistment for service in the Civil War, on September 19, 1862. He became a member of Company I, 118th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., serving under Generals Burnside, Schofield and Sherman. He saw much hard service, participating first in the skirmish at South Fork of Licking River, Kentucky; then in the engagement at Mossy Creek, Tennessee, and later suffered all the hardships with which General Sherman's valorous army contended. Mr. Sattler participated in the battles at Buzzards' Roost and Atlanta, and later, under General Thomas fought through the terrible conflicts at Franklin and Nashville. He escaped serious injury, although in his three years of service he faced almost certain death a hundred times. He was honorably discharged at Salisbury, North Carolina, on June 24, 1865.

After the war, Mr. Sattler returned to Shelby County, where he continued to reside until 1884, when he removed to Hoaglin township, Van Wert County, where he has resided ever since. Formerly he was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic post at Scott, but as the infirmities of age have crept

on he no longer retains his active connection with the patriotic fraternity. In his political views, Mr. Sattler is a Republican, and religiously is a valued member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Joseph Sattler was married (first) in Tuscarawas County, on June 8, 1848, to Gottliebe Barley, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and died January 17, 1859. They had five children, the three survivors being: John and Christian, of Hoaglin township; and Jacob, of Pike County, Indiana. Mr. Sattler was married (second) on January 11, 1860, to Mary A. Kotterman, who was born at Miamisburg, Ohio, and died March 30, 1894. The seven surviving children of this marriage are: William S., of Northern Michigan; Elizabeth J. (wife of John G. Baker) and Ulysses G., both of Hoaglin township; and Matilda, wife of John Ayers, of Michigan.



FRANKLIN CARLO, proprietor of the "Fountain Farm," one of the finest and best improved properties in Van Wert County, is one of the leading citizens of the county in which he has been treasurer and commissioner. Mr. Carlo's farm contains 320 acres, 190 of which comprise his home farm in section 30, Hoaglin township. He was born in Champaign County, Ohio, October 5, 1842, and is a son of Dr. Morris and Anna B. (Sutor) Carlo. The father was born in Saxony, Germany, and after coming to America settled first in Cincinnati, where he practiced medicine, and then removed to St. Paris, Champaign County, Ohio, where he not only continued his professional work but also engaged in farming.

Our subject was reared in Champaign

County and enjoyed the advantages of the common schools, preparing himself also in his chosen field of farming. On May 2, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil War, entering Company I, 134th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac, and during his service of four months he participated in the fighting along the Weldon Railroad and before Petersburg. On February 11, 1865, he re-enlisted, entering Company E, 185th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and served in the Army of the Cumberland, mainly through Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee, being honorably discharged in October, 1865.


Mr. Carlo then returned to Champaign County, his father having died while he was in the army. For a short time he farmed the homestead. In 1866 he took a trip through Northern Idaho and Montana. In partnership with his brother Edwin, he was engaged in freighting across the plains from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Virginia City, Montana. He also experimented in gold mining at Alder Gulch, Montana, but later returned to Champaign County, making the homeward trip of 2,850 miles down the Yellowstone River in a row-boat. This adventurous voyage was commenced at the mouth of the Yellowstone Canyon, the boat being rowed down the Yellowstone River to Fort Buford, and thence down the Missouri River to Omaha, Nebraska, a total distance of 2,850 miles. Mr. Carlo then took a stage across to Des Moines, Iowa, where he first struck the railroad, and thence easily reached his home in Champaign County. In 1869 he settled on his present farm, and in 1882 erected the fine brick residence which is an ideal of comfort and attractiveness—probably the finest in Hoaglin township and perhaps in all his section of the county.

On May 20, 1869, Franklin Carlo was united in marriage with Mary A. Hattery, who

was born in Van Wert County, February 1, 1851, and is a daughter of Edward and Mary A. (Barleen) Hattery. Mrs. Carlo's father, who is a Pennsylvanian by birth, came to Van Wert County some 50 years ago, settling as a pioneer in section 30, Hoaglin township, and is still living, in his 94th year, as one of the county's most esteemed and aged residents. His life has covered a wonderful period of his country's history, and his memory deserves to be preserved as one of those whose courage and industry transformed this once wild section to its present civilized prosperity. In his earlier years Mr. Hattery served as township trustee and at one time was one of its most prominent men. His aged wife died on August 24, 1884, the mother of three children—Virginia E., now Mrs. Edwin Carlo, of Champaign County; Mary A., wife of our subject; and Baty, of Hoaglin township.

The following named children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Carlo: Edward F., of Hoaglin township; Bertha L., wife of Adelbert McMillen, of Ridge township; Jenny L. (Mrs. J. G. Eirich), of Toledo, Ohio; and Bessie G., Chester A., and Ernest Rutherford and Gladys Ruth (twins), the four last named all living at home. Both Mr. Carlo and wife are members of the English Lutheran Church.


Politically Mr. Carlo is a Republican. He has served one term as township clerk, three years as county commissioner and four years as county treasurer. In every way he has demonstrated his public spirit, having given special attention to the promotion of school interests and the building of good roads. Formerly he also took a decided interest in the Grange movement in Hoaglin township. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Carlo accompany this sketch. On a preceding page is shown a view of their home place—"Fountain Farm."

RED J. HOTT, one of the well-known citizens of Van Wert, who was elected sheriff of Van Wert County on the Democratic ticket in November, 1905, was, until that event, engaged in a general blacksmithing business at No. 114 South Walnut street. He is a native of this county, born November 25, 1868, and is a son of Philip and Mary (Hoffman) Hott. The parents of Mr. Hott were highly respected residents of Van Wert County for a number of years, the father, who was a carpenter by trade, dying in 1895. He reared a family of three children, as follows: Charles, of Van Wert; Minnie, wife of S. W. Shaffer, of Van Wert, and Fred J.

Mr. Hott has always lived in Van Wert, acquiring a good common-school education and then learning the trade of a baker. He was thus employed for some three years, and then learned the blacksmithing business, being well equipped for the earning of a livelihood as master of two excellent trades. From 1898 until his election to the shrievalty Mr. Hott continued in the general blacksmithing business and conducted the leading shop in the city; but he has always been interested in public matters and has filled a number of the local offices. In 1900 he was made city marshal, and the duties of that office were so efficiently performed that on September 9, 1905, his party nominated him to the office of sheriff of Van Wert County, his past record certainly speaking well for the future. He has the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and in his present office of responsibility they feel sure that he will continue to guard the interests of the public without fear or favor, and with the greatest efficiency. In politics he has been a life-long Democrat.

Mr. Hott was united in marriage with Mary Ours and they have two children—Wal-

ter P. and Harold F. He is a member of the Home Guards of America and in religious belief is connected with the German Reform Church.

W. SITES, postmaster and general merchant at Monticello, Jennings township, was born April 1, 1857, in Virginia (now West Virginia) and is a son of Conrad and Catherine Sites. His parents both died in West Virginia, the mother passing away when her son was an infant, and the father dying in 1877. The latter was a farmer and part owner of a grist-mill.

C. W. Sites enjoyed only the advantages offered by the district schools, and his rearing was of a very practical nature. In 1883 he came to Ohio and settled in Van Wert County, being employed as a carpenter until 1887. He was a settler at Monticello when the surrounding country was a wilderness, and the little hamlet contained but six families with a population of about 100. At that time there was a little general store and an elevator had been built, but there was no evidence of the present thrift and business activity. In 1889 he established himself as a general merchant on a capital of \$150, his entire store being one half the size of one of his present large departments. He is now thoroughly established, since his enlargement carrying general merchandise, groceries and provisions—the former branch including dry goods, clothing and shoes. The development of such a large business in so brief a time, from almost nothing, demonstrates a large amount of commercial ability.

Mr. Sites is now serving his 12th year as postmaster, being first appointed by President Harrison. He has held a number of other local

offices and has always, since locating here, been more or less of a leader. He has had the foresight to invest in real estate, and in addition to his store stock, which is valued at \$2,000, owns three lots besides his own comfortable residence, and 20 acres of good farming land in section 17, south of the village. Mr. Sites is also interested in the Spencerville Home Telephone Company and in other like enterprises. He has always been one of the town's most public-spirited citizens, and has been tireless in his efforts to favorably place this section before investors, in this way having brought much outside capital to the place.

Mr. Sites was married to Frances R. Hesser, who was born in Minden, Ohio, and they have three children, viz.: Frederick A., Verdia Ellen and Mary Reta. He is a charter member of the United Brethren Church, at Monticello, and has always been active in Sunday-school work, at times having held as many as three official positions in the church. Altogether he is a hingh-minded, valuable citizen and, withal, a genial, pleasant gentleman. In politics Mr. Sites is a stanch Republican, and an active supporter of the present administration. On many occasions he has represented his section at important conventions and is well and favorably known throughout the county, both in political as well as business circles.

ALVIN WALTER, one of the promising young farmers of Liberty township, owner and operator of a farm of 80 acres in section 15, was born in York township, Van Wert County, Ohio, on January 12, 1870, and is a son of Andrew and Catherine (Hummel) Walter.

Andrew Walter was born and raised in Hocking County, coming with his parents to Van Wert County about 1846, and settling on

a farm in York township. He was married in Delaware, Ohio, to Catherine Hummel, a daughter of David Hummel of Delaware, who was a shoemaker by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Walter had a family of 10 children, six of whom are living, namely: Alvin, the subject of this sketch, who is still single and lives on the home place; Frances, who married James Hammond; Margaret, the wife of George May, who lives at Alma, Michigan; Eliza, who married Philip Mosier, of Ohio City; Tina, married to Lewis L. Tomlinson, who lives on the home farm; and Ada, wife of William Wiseman, of Ohio City. The oldest child died as an infant, unnamed; Lewis died in 1901, aged 28 years; and Perry and Clyde died when infants.

Alvin Walter came with his father to Liberty township when 11 years of age, and settled on a farm of 80 acres, which he assisted his father in clearing, as there were over 60 acres of timber. His father died on January 25, 1903, at the age of 75 years; his mother still resides on the home farm. In 1905 our subject erected the fine large frame house which the family now occupy, the homestead being situated half a mile northwest of Ohio City.

EDWIN A. WALBORN, a farmer living on his estate in section 32, Hoaglin township, was born March 21, 1860, and reared in Van Wert County, Ohio, being a son of Adam and Louisa (Carlo) Walborn, both of whom were natives of Campaign County, Ohio. They moved to Van Wert County in 1850, settling in Hoaglin township where nine years later the father died from typhoid fever. The mother still survives and is in her 74th year, a venerable and highly esteemed resident of the township.

Mr. Walborn received a public school edu-



HON. HIRAM C. GLENN

cation, although the death of his father, when he was eight years old, left a heavy responsibility on his young shoulders, and made it necessary for him to assume control of the farm at an early age. This responsibility, however, tended to develop his resources and strength, making him self-reliant and independent, and he is to-day one of the most successful and thorough farmers in the county. About 1881 he moved to his present farm, which he has since cultivated and which contains 100 acres of rich land. In addition to general farming he makes a specialty of breeding Duroc-Jersey hogs and Lincolnshire sheep, and in the 18 years so engaged has produced a strain of these animals which are in demand at a good figure throughout a wide territory. In his political belief he is a Democrat.

Mr. Walborn was married November 24, 1887, to Sarah Ridenour, a native of Allen County, Indiana, and a daughter of Lewis and Esther (Brenneman) Ridenour, both deceased. Five children resulted from this union, namely: L. Earl, Herschel E., Beulah, Ivan and Cecil R. (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Walborn are devout members of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, in which Mr. Walborn was formerly deacon. Mrs. Walborn is a member of Hive No. 74, Ladies of the Maccabees, of Van Wert, and is a lady of strong character and pleasing personality. Mr. Walborn is now serving his second term as a member of the township School Board, and his voice and vote may always be depended upon to advance the cause of education.



ON. HIRAM C. GLENN, formerly judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Van Wert County, formerly mayor of Van Wert and the acknowledged leader of the bar of Van Wert, was born

in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, October 8, 1838, and is a son of William Glenn.

The Glenn family is of Irish extraction. Judge Glenn's grandparents, Thomas and Nancy Glenn, emigrated from Ireland to America in the latter part of the 18th century and located in Jefferson County, Ohio, where Thomas Glenn purchased land. He took part in the War of 1812 as did his son John, and died in 1852. William Glenn, father of Hiram C., was reared in Jefferson County and moved in 1839 to Van Wert County, where he lived until his death on May 18, 1856.

Hiram C. Glenn was only four months old when his parents settled in Van Wert County, and he has been identified with its interests ever since. After completing his education, for some years he engaged in teaching and then entered newspaper work. Many recall his editorship of the *Van Wert Bulletin* and the predictions then made that he had an assured career before him. In 1865 he commenced the study of the law, remained one year under the tutelage of Attorney J. H. Kroh, later read under Judge O. W. Rose, and was admitted to the bar in 1867. He was then elected justice of the peace in Pleasant township and served as such until 1870, when he entered into active practice.

In 1879 Mr. Glenn formed a law partnership with Hon. G. M. Saltzgaber, which continued for 10 years as Saltzgaber & Glenn. His next association with W. S. Johnson brought into notice the firm of Glenn & Johnson, which lasted for two years, after which he practiced alone until 1893, when the firm of Glenn & Walcott came into existence, which continued until the removal of Mr. Walcott from Van Wert in 1895. In 1892 Mr. Glenn was appointed by Governor McKinley to fill the vacancy on the bench caused by the resignation of Judge Day, of the Court of Common Pleas.

Judge Glenn was one of the original stockholders in the Van Wert Gas Light Company and was elected its president. From 1862 until 1865 he served as township clerk, and filled other local offices, culminating in his election as mayor of Van Wert in 1870. In 1884 he was his party's choice as Representative in the Sixth Congressional District, and in the election he ran 1,500 votes ahead of his ticket, but as it was a landslide for the opposite party, he was defeated.

On August 16, 1865, Judge Glenn married Georgiana C. Baughman, who was a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Armstrong) Baughman, natives of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Glenn died in 1898. He was married (second) to Alice Mann. Their pleasant home is at No. 408 North Jefferson street.

Judge Glenn was for a period chairman of the board of trustees of the Odd Fellows Orphan Home at Springfield, Ohio. Fraternally he is an Odd Fellow and has served as deputy grand master of the order. His portrait accompanies this sketch.



VAPT. HENRY P. HOLMES, whose fine farm of 185 acres is jointly located in Union and Tully townships, and whose handsome residence is situated in section 31 of the former township, is a substantial citizen of this locality and is also an honored veteran of the Civil War. He was born in the village of Windsor, Richland County, Ohio, on March 1, 1840, and is a son of Samuel and Clarissa Maria (Page) Holmes.

Captain Holmes is of Scotch-Irish extraction. His ancestors settled in Virginia in colonial days. His grandfather, Jacob Holmes, who was a native of the Old Dominion, was

a pioneer of Harrison County, Ohio, and later a settler of Richland County and finally a resident of Crawford County, where he passed away.

Samuel Holmes, the father of Captain Holmes, was born in Harrison County, Ohio, in 1812. His early years were passed as a farmer and carpenter and, prior to the Civil War, he was engaged in hotel-keeping. In 1849 he visited California, but remained there for only a short time on account of the prevalence of cholera. He then turned south into Mexico, where he bought 116 head of horses, and, with a companion, drove them into Texas, where, however, all but two stampeded and disappeared forever. In 1852, unfortunate but undaunted, he came to Van Wert County and built the Wayne Hotel in Van Wert, which he conducted for a time before engaging in the milling business, and finally died in Van Wert County in 1889.

The mother of Captain Holmes was Clarissa Maria Page, who was born in Vermont and was six years of age when she was brought by her parents to Ohio. In 1839 she was married to Samuel Holmes, at Windsor, Richland County. She died in Van Wert County in February, 1902, at the age of 82 years. Jacob Page, her grandfather, a native of Vermont, was the pioneer of the family in Ohio. The children of Samuel Holmes and wife were: Henry P., of this sketch; Mary and Clarissa M., both deceased; and Mrs. Emma Thomas, of Chicago.

Henry P. Holmes was nine years old when his father left home to go to California, in the early days of the gold excitement, and he accompanied his mother to her father's home in Wyandot County, where they lived until the father returned in 1852. Mr. Holmes then decided to settle in Van Wert County, and the journey was made with horse and wagon, the

party reaching Van Wert in July, 1852. As occasion offered, the youth attended school, but had made no business arrangements which prevented his offering his services to his country almost at the first hour of her need. He enlisted on April 19, 1861, under Capt. Israel D. Clark, in Company E, 15th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., for a period of 90 days, it then being the general hope that within that period the rebellion would be crushed. He returned safely at the close of this enlistment, although he had participated in the battles of Philippi, Laurel Hill, Cheat River and Carrick's Ford, and had been roughly brought to realize the stern, unromantic facts of war. Nevertheless, on August 6, 1862, he reenlisted, entering Company A, 99th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf., and marched away under command of Capt. William C. Scott. The record of the regiment's valorous work is both interesting and most creditable. After the battle of Perryville, Captain Scott's company was engaged in skirmish duties around Nashville, being thus employed when its brave commander was killed. The command then encamped at Murfreesboro until February, when Mr. Holmes was promoted, rising in rank from orderly sergeant to 2nd lieutenant; subsequently, on account of personal bravery, he rose to the position of 1st lieutenant and then to a captaincy. With this rank he was transferred to the command of Company E, 99th Reg., Ohio Vol. Inf. The regiment followed in the wake of the enemy to McMinnville, Tennessee, where an order was received that three commanding officers and six non-commissioned officers should be sent to Ohio to recruit, and Captain Holmes was one assigned to this duty. After six weeks of recruiting duty, he was ordered to rejoin his regiment and reached it during its retreat after the battle of Chickamauga. This was the peril of that 34 days of distress, when the troops

were obliged to subsist on quarter rations. Horses died by the hundred and many a brave soldier nearly succumbed from exhaustion. It is a matter of history how at length the 11th and 12th corps of Hooker's army and a detail of Sherman's army, by herculean efforts, reached their suffering comrades and relieved their distress.

Captain Holmes' regiment belonged to the famous Whittaker's brigade, which was the first to surmount Lookout Mountain, on November 24th, taking the brunt of the battle, and was in the second line at Mission Ridge, was in the thickest of the fight all the way to Atlanta, and was a part of the 15th Army Corps at Resaca and Kenesaw Mountain. At the latter place this regiment was transferred to the 23rd Corps, engaged in the flank movements and constructed the pontoon bridge across the Chattahoochee River. It was the first brigade to cross the river, going thence to Decatur, Georgia, and then across to Atlanta, destroying the railroad to Jonesboro. Subsequently this regiment, which had covered itself with glory, was sent back to Nashville and participated in the fight at Franklin, with Hood's forces. The march to Nashville was one of peril and hardship, the enemy having prevented direct communication and forcing upon the command a weary tramp of 200 miles. By December 31, 1864, the gallant 99th was so reduced in numbers—the falling away of its comrades being marked by green hillocks scattered over every battle-field in Tennessee and Georgia—that the few members of it remaining were included in the 50th Ohio, of which Captain Holmes was a member when he was mustered out.

Upon his return Captain Holmes was greeted by his fellow-citizens with the hearty admiration inspired by bravery and manly qualities of mind and heart. Many years have since

The history of the United States of America is a story of growth and change. It begins with the first settlers, who came to the continent in search of a new life. They found a land of vast resources and opportunities, but also one of challenges and hardships. The early years were marked by the struggle for survival, as the settlers fought against the elements and the native peoples. Over time, the colonies grew in number and in size, and the people began to assert their rights and demands for self-governance. The American Revolution was a turning point in the nation's history, as the colonies declared their independence from Britain and fought a war to establish a new government. The Constitution was drafted, and the United States was born. The years following the Revolution were a time of rapid growth and expansion. The nation's territory increased, and its population grew. The economy flourished, and the people enjoyed a period of relative peace and stability. However, the nation was not without its problems. There were conflicts between the states, and the federal government struggled to maintain its authority. The Civil War was a devastating conflict that divided the nation and resulted in the death of hundreds of thousands of people. The war ended with the preservation of the Union, but it also brought about significant changes in the nation's social and political structure. The Reconstruction era was a time of rebuilding and reform, as the nation sought to heal the wounds of war and establish a more just and equitable society. The late 19th and early 20th centuries were a time of great progress and innovation. The Industrial Revolution transformed the nation's economy, and new technologies and inventions changed the way people lived and worked. The United States emerged as a world power, and its influence was felt around the globe. The 20th century was a time of both triumph and tragedy. The nation played a leading role in the fight against fascism and communism, and it achieved many great accomplishments. However, it also faced significant challenges, including the Vietnam War, the civil rights movement, and the challenges of the modern world. Today, the United States is a nation of great strength and potential, but it also faces many challenges and uncertainties. The history of the United States is a story of resilience and hope, and it is a story that continues to inspire and guide us today.

elapsed but his loyal deeds and unselfish patriotism are not forgotten, and he is one of the most honored members of *Capper Post*, No. 236, G. A. R., at Convoy. Until the spring of 1866 he worked with his father in the mill, and then located on his present farm in Van Wert County. A portion of this was his father-in-law's old homestead, and the only house was a log cabin in the woods. He had the land cleared, added to his possessions until he had 400 acres, and then engaged in the raising of sheep. As long as it was profitable, he continued in that line, but at present he is engaged in general farming. He has divided 200 acres among his children, retaining 185 acres of finely improved land. His old-time log cabin long since gave way to a modern, convenient, commodious home, attractive architecturally as well as comfortable in all its arrangements.

In August, 1866, Captain Holmes was married to Emeline Burt, who was born in Coshocton, Ohio, August 27, 1846, and is a daughter of D. W. and Catherine (Creater) Burt, who came to Van Wert in 1856. The children of Captain Holmes and wife were: Burt, of Pleasant township; Elizabeth, wife of William Dwyer, of Convoy; Harry, of Union township; Catherine, wife of Noel Baker, of Tully township; Walter, actively operating the home farm; and Grace and Anna, also living with their parents.

Captain Holmes has always been a Republican, his first presidential vote contributing to the second election of President Lincoln. He has served in various public offices in the township, and has always proven himself as faithful a citizen as he was a loyal soldier. In 1893 he was elected probate judge of Van Wert County, and served three years. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Tribe of Ben Hur, at Van Wert.



FREDERICK GIESSLER was born in Holmes County, Ohio, November 1, 1842, and was a year old when brought to Van Wert County by his parents, who located in Willshire township, where they died on the old home farm in section 1. Mr. Giessler lived on his father's farm until he entered the Union Army, enlisting in Company C, 41st Reg., Ohio. Vol. Inf., serving with General Thomas in his campaign against Hood and participating in the engagements at Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville, which were among the hardest fought battles of the entire war. He was discharged in June, 1865, and returned to his father's home. The same year he purchased 80 acres in Willshire township, much of the purchase price coming from army wages, which he did not squander like many soldiers. Two years later he sold the farm in Willshire township and bought 120 acres in section 23, Harrison township, where he has since lived and engaged in farming.

John Giessler, the father, came from Germany and located in Holmes County, where he entered 100 acres of land, which, with the assistance of his son, Frederick, he cleared within the following three years of his residence there. The latter also cleared a portion of the first 80 acres which his father purchased in Willshire township, and as later he cleared all but 20 acres of his present farm he has certainly had his share of this kind of pioneer labor. John Giessler married Margaret Schaadt, and had six children, three of whom are living, namely: Frederick; Margaret (Mrs. William Exley) and John, who lives on the home farm in Willshire township.

Frederick Giessler was married in 1869 to Elizabeth Kreischer, a native of this county and a daughter of Peter Kreischer. They have had

six children, as follows: John D., a resident of Harrison township, who taught school for 13 years in succession and has recently given it up on account of his health and resumed farming; F. Joseph, who lives at home; Margaret (Greulich), whose husband is superintendent of the Convoy schools; Frieda, who teaches in the Convoy schools, and two children who died in infancy. Mr. Giessler and his family are all members of the Evangelical Church. He is a Democrat in politics, and has held a number of township offices, having served as infirmary director for three years, township trustee one term and supervisor two terms.

JOHAN VAN LIEW, a former resident of Van Wert, was born in Crittenden County, Arkansas, October 18, 1851, and is the son of Henry C. and Hannah J. (Foster) Van Liew. The father was born in the town of New Brunswick, New Jersey, May 7, 1825, and the mother in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1833, and in the latter city the couple first met and were there married in 1848. they resided in Tennessee until 1851 when they located in Crittenden County, Arkansas, where the father followed farming until 1854, when the family removed to Richland County, Ohio, where the father farmed until 1855 when they moved to De Witt, Michigan, where he engaged in the lumber trade until 1856 and then continued in the same business for a year in Mansfield, Ohio. From there they removed to Columbia City, Indiana, thence in 1860 to Larwill, Indiana, and in 1870 to Chicago, Illinois, where Mr. Van Liew was engaged in the drug business until 1872 when the family returned to Indiana and located at South Bend, where Mr. Van Liew handled drugs until his death, which occurred in 1888.

He was a finely educated gentleman, an honored member of the Masonic fraternity and in politics a Democrat.

John Van Liew, the subject of this sketch, led a somewhat nomadic life with his parents until 1865, when he began his business life as a brakeman on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway, which position he held for one year and then acted as clerk for the freight agent of the company at Columbia City, Indiana, until transferred to Larwill, Indiana, where he filled the position of acting agent until 1871. In this year he was transferred to Ada, Ohio, where he became agent for the company and in 1877 he came to Van Wert, where he filled the position of agent until 1887 when he resigned to accept the position of general freight and passenger agent of the Ohio Division of the Cincinnati, Jackson & Mackinaw Railroad Company. A year later he retired from the employ of the company on account of a change of administration. No more competent gentleman could have been chosen to fill these responsible positions and his retirement from the employ of the company was by far a greater loss to it than to himself. The two succeeding years were passed in traveling through the Western States in pursuit of pleasure and business. In politics Mr. Van Liew is a Democrat and in 1889 he was elected common pleas clerk of Van Wert County and so faithfully and ably did he perform the duties of the office that he was triumphantly re-chosen for the same position in 1892. During his second term he was solicited, January 19, 1895, to accept the position of cashier of the First National Bank of Van Wert. In April, 1902, he resigned as cashier of the First National Bank to accept a position as auditor and treasurer of the Empire Construction Company, of Toledo, Ohio, which had a contract to build and equip a telephone exchange at Los An-

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